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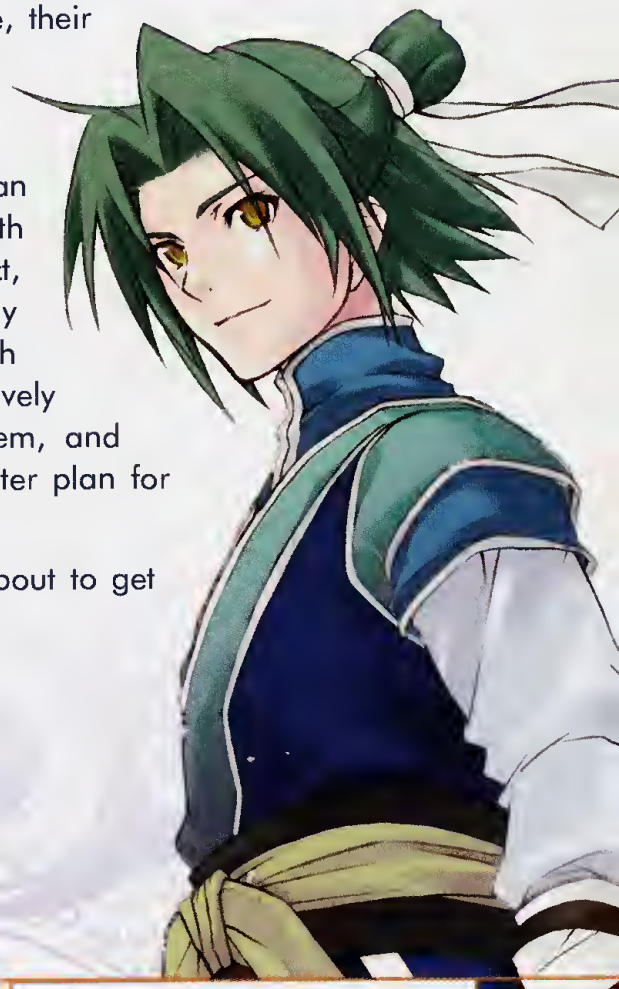
As the Han Dynasty collapses, two mighty warriors—Zhang Fei and Guan Yu—stand strong against the tide of rebellion. But because these fighters are female, their dreams of serving in the Imperial army are nothing but dreams... until they find a patron and like-minded brother in Liu Bei, an idealistic descendant of royalty with dreams of his own. Forging a pact, the three form a volunteer army dedicated to restoring peace, which means first defeating three deceptively adorable sisters who oppose them, and who have their own, definitely cuter plan for China's future...

One thing's for sure—history's about to get a makeover!



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The current of Chang jiang rush dow
to east. Froth covers the heroes. Every life ha
its rise and fall. Lush green mountain i
always looking same. Red su
set behind the mountain. No
the old silver-haired fishing i
Chang jiang every season. He
glad to meet his old friend again,an
having pleasant chat about affairs in all ag
DRAGON SISTER!
ドラゴンシスター!
三國志百花繚乱
1

Maybe you've heard of the Three Kingdoms era–the bloody and exciting period of China's history chronicled in *Romance of the Three Kingdoms*. For all those who haven't, well, read on!

In 184 CE (common era), the mighty Han Dynasty, which had ruled China for nearly 400 years, was coming to an end. The Han Dynasty was a lot like the Roman Empire–under the Han, China was united and made many advancements in technology and social structure. Paper and steel were invented. China's territories stretched from modern day Vietnam to Korea.

Corruption in the government led to a steady decline in its ability to function. This spurred the Yellow Turban Rebellion (Huang Jin Rebellion) of 184. The rebellion was unsuccessful, but by 265, the Han Dynasty, nevertheless, had been obliterated and replaced by the Jin Dynasty. All the kingdoms that rose up in the interim were short-lived, including the confederacy of three kingdoms that the era takes its name from: Wei, Shu and Wu.

You will recognize some of the key players of the Three Kingdoms era in the pages of *Dragon Sister!* Zhang Jiao and his brothers led the Huang Jin Rebellion. Liu Bei, with the assistance of his top commanders, Guan Yu and Zhang Fei, went on to become the Emperor of Shu. Another general, Cao Cao, exerted considerable influence over the court's last days and became the Emperor of Wei. General Dong Zhuo captured the capital and imposed a puppet emperor, who would be the last of the Han Dynasty.

If you read all the literature and watched all the movies that have ever been made about the Three Kingdoms, you'd never get around to reading this manga!

DO YOU KNOW YOUR THREE KINGDOMS?

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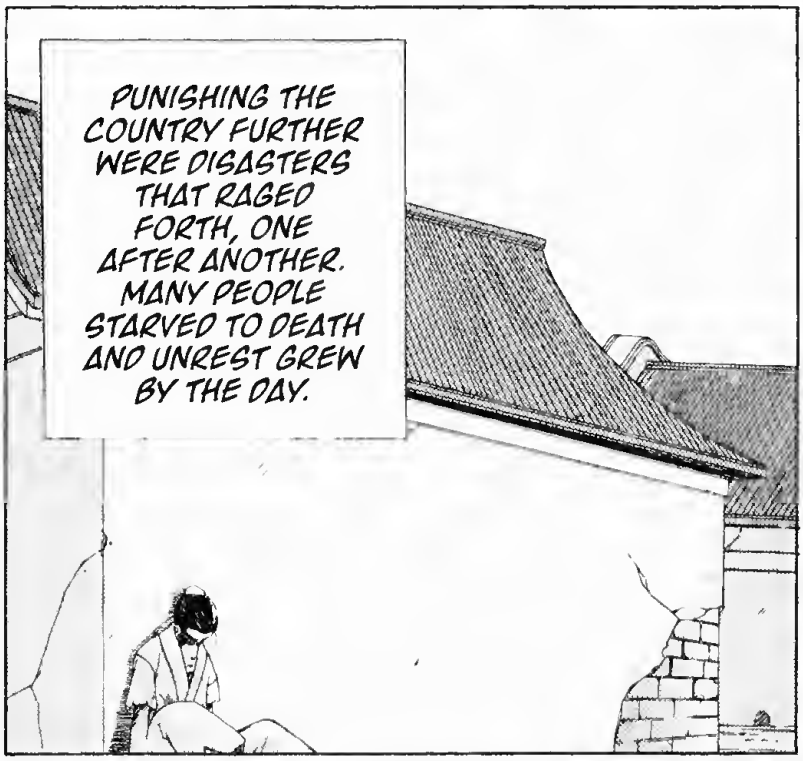
WAAAH!! BUT I'M TOO HUNGRY AND TIRED TO WALK ANYMORE!
JEEZ, DON'T BE SUCH A BABY!
YOU CAN SEE THE TOWN JUST UP AHEAD!
OKAY! I GET IT, I GET IT! LAY OFF!
OF COURSE YOU RE! YOU ANK O MUCH AKE ST NIGHT YOU'RE LL HUNG-OVER!
IF YOU UNDERSTAND, THEN MOVE!
I'M MOVING! I SWEAR! LEMME GO!

Chapter One
AN OATH UNDER THE PEACH BLOSSOMS

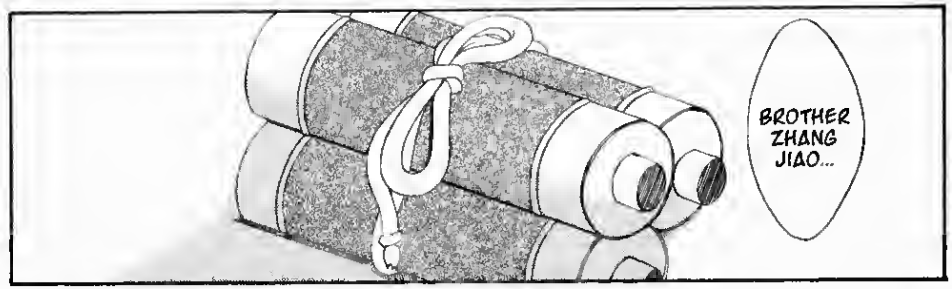
...300 YEARS AFTER THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE HAN DYNASTY, THE EUNUCHS AND COGNATES OF THE IMPERIAL COURT HELD THE EMPIRE IN THEIR HAND.


PUNISHING THE COUNTRY FURTHER WERE DISASTERS THAT RAGED FORTH, ONE AFTER ANOTHER. MANY PEOPLE STARVED TO DEATH AND UNREST GREW BY THE DAY.

*Eunuchs were castrated men who served the emperor hand and foot; cognates were relatives of the royalty.

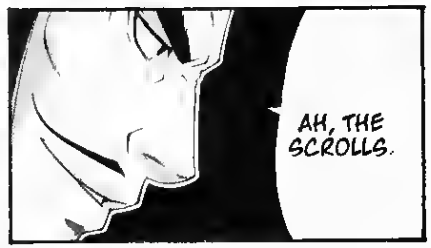
FLASHBACK
IT ALL BEGAN ON ONE OF MY TRIPS TO THE MOUNTAINS. I SOUGHT SPECIAL MEDICINES NECESSARY FOR BECOMING A SAGE.
SOMETHING SHINY CAUGHT MY EYE THINKING IT MIGHT BE GOLD, I WENT IN FOR A CLOSER LOOK
WHILE LOOKING FOR INGREDIENTS, I CAME ACROSS A STRANGE CAVE AND WENT IN.
ミシュウゥゥ...
HO HO HO! I AM THE SAINTLY HERMIT OF THE SOUTHERN LAND.
!!!

ZHANG BAO (MIDDLE)
ZHANG JIAO (ELDEST)
ZHANG LIANG (YOUNGEST)
THE ZHANG FAMILY HAD THREE BROTHERS-- ZHANG JIAO, ZHANG BAO AND ZHANG LIANG THE AWFUL STATE OF THEIR COUNTRY WORRIED THEM ALL TERRIBLY.


BROTHER ZHANG JIAO...

THEY WERE GIVEN TO ME BY A HERMIT. THEY ARE MAGIC SCROLLS.
HIDDEN WITHIN THEIR ARCANE SCRIPT IS THE POWER TO SAVE THIS COUNTRY.

WHAT ARE THESE SCROLLS ...?


AH, THE SCROLLS.

IS HE JERKING OUR CHAINS...?
THAT IS WHAT TRANS-PIRED
THE WAY THINGS ARE
...I DOUBT ANYTHING CAN SAVE THIS COUNTRY FROM ITS DECAY.
IN FACT, RATHER THAN SAVING THE COUNTRY, WE SHOULD JUST CREATE A NEW NATION THAT WE CAN GOVERN TOGETHER.
UM...
IT'S HARD TO SAY IF THAT OLD MAN WAS TELLING THE TRUTH, BUT..
LET US DO SO!

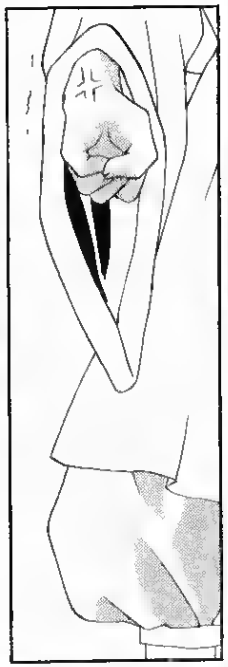
I'VE GOT NO TIME FOR YOU, GRANDPA.
HEY! DON'T IGNORE ME!
I'VE WAITED A LONG TIME FOR THE ARRIVAL OF THE ONE WHO WILL BRING SALVATION TO THIS COUNTRY
!!
I GRANT YOU THE ESSENTIAL ARTS OF PEACE.
NOW, WAIT RIGHT THERE YOU WISH TO ACHIEVE SAGEHOOD AND ALLEVIATE THE SUFFERING OF YOUR NATION'S PEOPLE, DO YOU NOT?
WITH THE SCROLLS' POWER, YOU WILL BE ABLE TO SAVE EVERYONE IN THE MIDDLE KINGDOM.
WITH THESE SCROLLS, YOU CAN PERFORM ANY TECHNIQUE YOU DESIRE.

ALL RIGHT!! ZHANG BAO! ZHANG LIANG!
FOR THE SAKE OF THE FUTURE, WE MUST SUCCEED!
IF WE'RE GONNA DO IT, LET'S DO IT NOW, WHILE THE COUNTRY'S SO WEAK.
THE WEAK WHO REMAIN WILL BE EASY TO SUBJUGATE.
MAY NO MORE HEROES BE BORN IN THIS LAND!
!!!
A PEACEFUL COUNTRY THAT'S FULL OF BEAUTIFUL WOMEN I CAN SURROUND MYSELF WITH... YES, THAT IS A FUTURE I CAN LIVE WITH!
NO, WAIT.. WHY STOP THERE? WE SHOULD TAKE AWAY ALL THEIR POWER. MAKE THEM WOMEN.
YES, I'VE RECENTLY STUDIED THE MOVEMENT OF THE STARS, LOOKING AT THE FUTURE.
BONK
?
BUT... HOW?
LET'S TAKE AWAY THEIR POWER!
SO I THINK, IT'S THE HEROES THAT WILL REALLY BE THE PROBLEM!
HMM... YEAH, THAT'S TROUBLE.
WHILE THE IMPERIAL COURT RUNS THIS COUNTRY INTO THE GROUND, MEN OF FORTUNE AND FORTITUDE WILL POP UP ACROSS THE COUNTRYSIDE.
WITHOUT HEROES, THE NATION WOULD BE EASY TO TAKE OVER! THERE WOULD BE NO ONE TO FIGHT BACK!
YES!

GYOEEEE!!
ドゴオオオオオンッ
WH-WH-WH--
WHAT THE HELL IS THIS?!
DID I JUST BECOME A GIRL?!
EVEN MY CLOTHES HAVE CHANGED!
AND WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?!
FAHN FAO (ZHANG GAO)
WHAT IN THE WORLD?
GIMME A MINUTE. LET ME THINK!
IF YOU SHOULD USE THE SCROLLS WITH MALICIOUS INTENT, THERE SHALL BE RETRIBUTION.
……
……

AND SO, GUAN YU, WIELDER OF THE GUAN DAO, AND ZHANG FEI, BEARER OF EXTREME POWER, WERE BORN INTO THE WORLD. NONE UNDER THE HEAVENS BORE THE STRENGTH TO MATCH THAT OF THESE TWO WOMEN.
BUT, THE WORLD THEY WERE BORN INTO EXCLUDED WOMEN FROM WARFARE, AND WHETHER THEY DESIRED TO BATTLE OR NOT, THEY WERE IGNORED.

WOULD YOU HAPPEN TO KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THAT, ZHANG JIAO?
...WHY DID WE TURN INTO WOMEN?
SO, I CAN SEE THAT THE MAGIC REFLECTED BACK ON US, BUT...



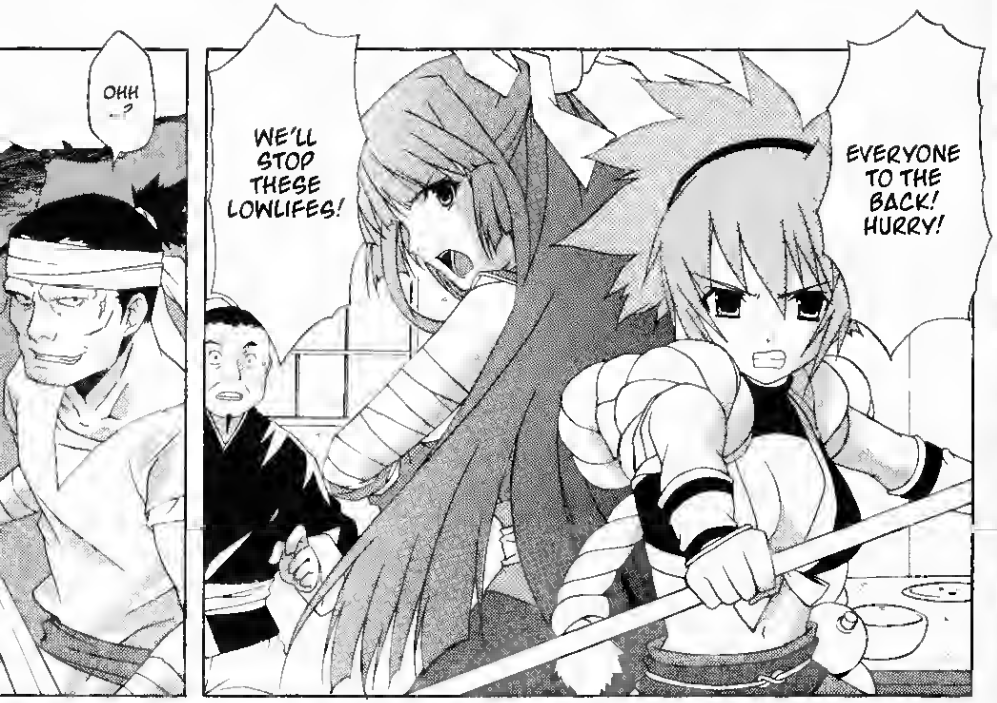
BECAUSE OF IT, ALL THOSE BORN INTO THE WORLD THEREAFTER WERE ALTERED AS WELL.

THE ZHANG FAMILY HAD BEEN CURSED BY THEIR OWN SPELL. HOWEVER, THE SPELL HAD NOT FAILED COMPLETELY.

LOW SANG VILLAGE ZHUOXIAN
HEY, GUAN YU? HOW LONG ARE WE STAYING IN THIS TOWN?
FOOD'S GOOD, SO I DON'T CARE, REALLY.
HMM, ACTUALLY, THERE'S SOMETHING I'M INTERESTED IN DOING HERE
IT SEEMS THIS VILLAGE IS RECRUITING VOLUNTEERS TO FIGHT AGAINST THE HUANG JIN* REBELLION.
VOLUNTEERS, HUH?
*Remember, Huang Jin=Yellow Turban.
WHOAAA!!
OW OW OW...
...
BECAUSE THE WORLD IS THE WAY IT IS, ZHANG JIAO, ZHANG BAO AND ZHANG LIANG HAVE TAKEN IT UPON THEMSELVES TO START A REBELLION. THEIR REBELLION AND ITS ARMY ARE THE HUANG JIN. THEY USE ALL SORTS OF STRANGE MAGIC, [illegible] WHAT THEY DO, THE IMPERIAL ARMY JUST CAN'T WIN.
EVEN THESE REMOTE VILLAGES ARE FEELING THE EFFECTS OF THE REBELLION. THE IMPERIAL ARMY IS IN REAL TROUBLE AND IT'S ONLY GOING TO GET WORSE.
YEAH, WELL, WHADDA WE CARE?
THEY ONLY RECRUIT MEN!
WE'RE NOT ALLOWED TO FIGHT FOR OUR COUNTRY! WHY COULDN'T WE HAVE BEEN BORN MEN?
CHUCK

GRAB
?!

GOOD AFTER-NOON!
OH
I BROUGHT THE STRAW MATS YOU ASKED FOR.
THANKS SO MUCH. THAT'S A BIG HELP.
PFFT!
A STRAW MAT! HE'S SELLING MATS WITH THE COUNTRY AT WAR?
IF I WERE HIM, I'D BE PUTTING IN AN APPLICATION TO THE ARMY.
DID YOU SEE THAT JUST NOW?
YEAH.


OHH...?
WE'LL STOP THESE LOWLIFES!
EVERYONE TO THE BACK! HURRY!

TH-THREE?!
!!

ALL BUT THREE OF YOU FLEE IN TERROR, HUH?

!!

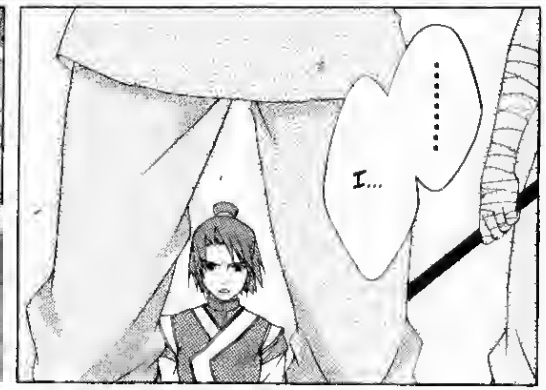
IF YOU BASTARDS DON'T WANNA DIE, GIVE US EVERYTHING YOU GOT!
WHERE'S THE WELCOME PARTY?! THE HUANG JIN ARE HERE!

THAT IDIOT! WHAT'S HE DOING?!
AND WHAT'S HE DOING WITH HIS HANDS?!
A THRUSTING MOTION WITH A SWORD THAT LONG?
URYAAAAA!!

H-HEY, THE RUG MAN!
WHY DIDN'T YOU RUN?! YOU GOT A DEATH WISH?!

YOU ...!!

...HAVE A DREAM.


I...

AND I'M NOT GONNA LET SOME THIEF DESTROY IT!
IT WON'T END HERE!

A DREAM?

*In *Dragon Sisters!* introductions, given names are followed by courtesy names (which the characters would have been addressed by). Full name: Liu Bei; courtesy name: Xuande.

...LIU BEI XUANDE.
MY NAME IS..
I'M A DESCENDANT OF PRINCE LIU SHENG.
I SELL MATS FOR A LIVING, BUT I AM OF ROYAL BLOOD.
WHAT WERE YOU SO WILLING TO THROW AWAY YOUR LIFE FOR?
WHAT IS THIS DREAM OF YOURS, EXACTLY?

YOU LIKE HIM, DON'T YOU?
THAT GUY ...
JEEZ, ZHANG FEI.
I CAN READ YOU LIKE A BOOK.
HEY, GUAN YU.
IN FACT, MAYBE HE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN!
Y'KNOW?
HE JUST MIGHT BE ABLE TO SAVE CHINA.
YOU NEVER KNOW! A WEAKLING LIKE HIM, WITH NOTHING BUT A DREAM...

THAT...
THAT IS THE DREAM I CARRY IN THIS ROYAL BLOOD!!
I WANT TO MAKE A WORLD WITHOUT CRIME, WITHOUT MURDER, WHERE PEOPLE CAN FEEL SAFE AND HAPPY.
I... WISH TO HEAL THIS BATTERED LAND...
SO YOU'RE ROYALTY ?!
I'D RATHER DIE THAN DISGRACE MYSELF BY DOING NOTHING...
IF I DIE, I DIE... I'M WILLING TO GO THAT FAR.
IF YOU GET YOURSELF KILLED, THAT DREAM WILL MEAN NOTHING.
I WON'T FORGET YOUR HELP!
I MAY BE WEAK, BUT I CAN AT LEAST ACT AS NOBLE AS MY BLOOD.
.....

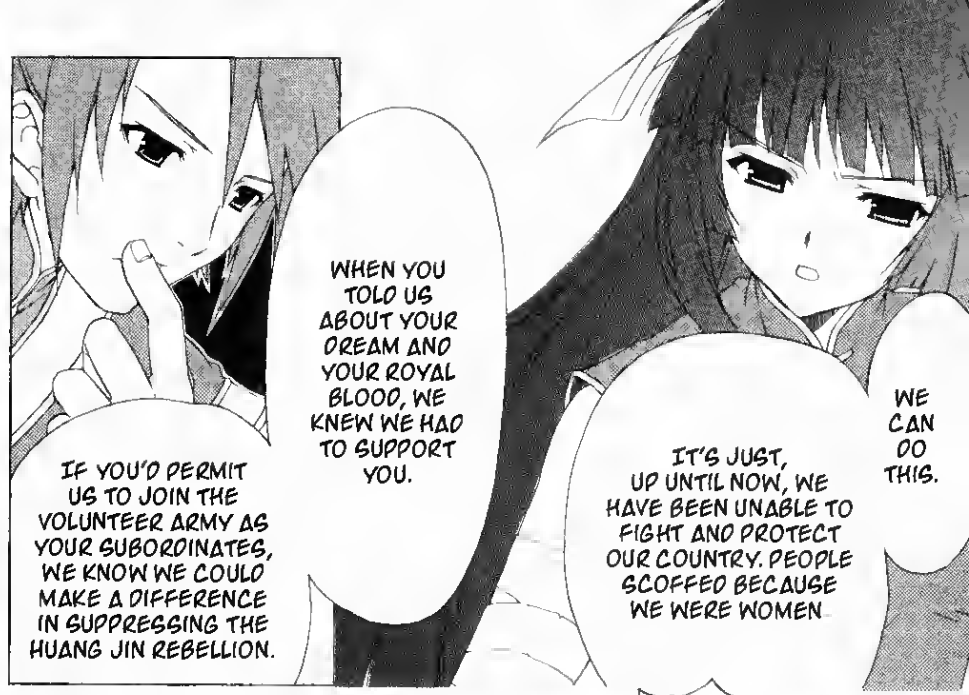
!!
SIR LIU BEI!!
HUH? YOU GUYS?
WE'VE COME TO ASK YOU TO LEAD US, SIR LIU BEI.

SIR LIU BEI, PLEASE DON'T TURN YOUR BACK! READ THIS!
MY WHOLE LIFE I'VE NEVER FELT SUCH A STRONG NEED TO HELP ANOTHER PERSON! PLEASE LET ME AID YOU!

HERE IT IS. THE MAT-SELLER'S HOUSE.

LOOK!
WHAT BEAUTIFUL PEACH BLOSSOMS ...!
AND WHY ARE WE HERE?
BECAUSE YOU LIKE HIM, TOO! I KNEW IT!

SWEAR BY THE HEAVENS! THOUGH OUR NAMES ARE DIFFERENT, WE PLEDGE OURSELVES AS FAMILY, TO GIVE OUR STRENGTH AND OUR LIVES, FOR THE RESURRECTION OF OUR COUNTRY!
YES! UNDER THE BLOSSOMING PEACH TREES, WE PLEDGE TO FIGHT AS BRETHREN!
BORN APART, WE SHALL DIE TOGETHER!


WHEN YOU TOLD US ABOUT YOUR DREAM AND YOUR ROYAL BLOOD, WE KNEW WE HAD TO SUPPORT YOU.
IF YOU'D PERMIT US TO JOIN THE VOLUNTEER ARMY AS YOUR SUBORDINATES, WE KNOW WE COULD MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN SUPPRESSING THE HUANG JIN REBELLION.
IT'S JUST, UP UNTIL NOW, WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO FIGHT AND PROTECT OUR COUNTRY. PEOPLE SCOFFED BECAUSE WE WERE WOMEN
WE CAN DO THIS.

FIGHT WITH ME-- NOT AS MY SERVANTS, BUT AS MY SISTERS.
IF YOU'RE SERIOUS, THEN PLEASE.
THANK YOU

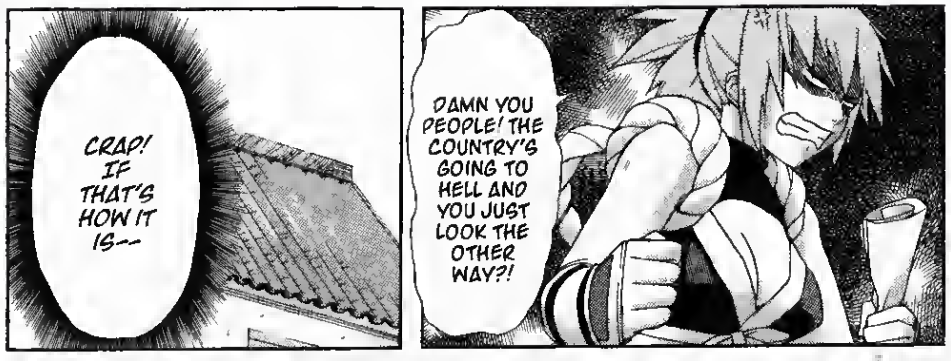
THAT'S RIGHT!! DO YOU HONESTLY THINK THIS IDIOT IS CAPABLE OF RUNNING A SCAM?
HOW COULD YOU THINK THIS WAS ABOUT SOMETHING STUPID LIKE MONEY?!
THANK YOU... IT'S A WONDERFUL OFFER, BUT I'M AFRAID I CAN'T AFFORD TO--
IT'S NOT ABOUT MONEY !!

!!
YOU BET!

MAMA, IT'S NO USE! THEY'LL CATCH US!
ドドドドドド
MORE THAN OUR HORSES WILL BE LOST IF THEY CATCH US--WE'LL LOSE OUR LIVES, TOO!
IF YOU VALUE YOUR LIFE, FLY FASTER!
ドドド
ZHANG SHI JING (MERCHANT)
SU SHUANG (MERCHANT)
IDIOT! YOU'RE THE MAN, ACT LIKE ONE!!

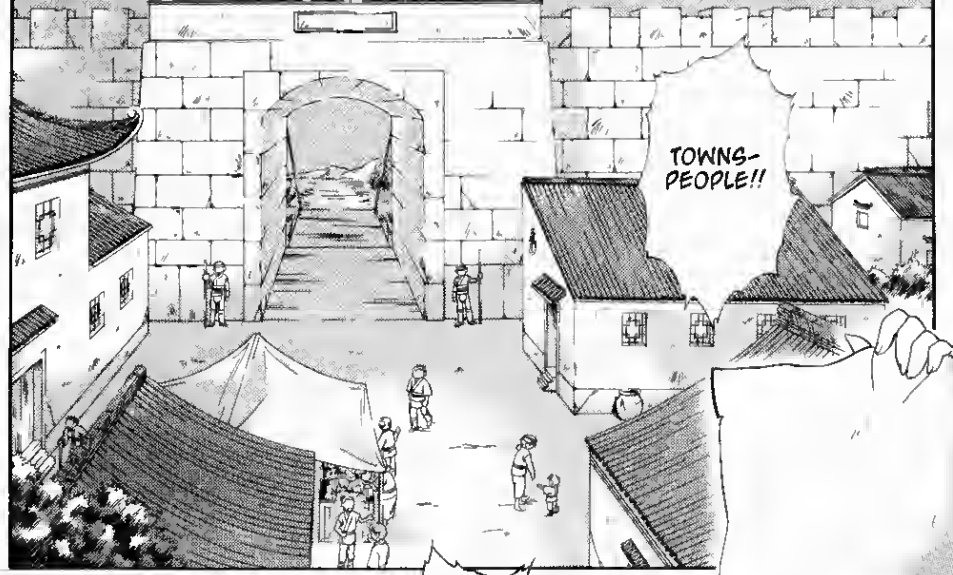
OKAY, HOW ABOUT THIS? IF I CALL YOU BIG SIS, THEN I GET TO CALL LIU BEI BIG BRO!
...BIG BRO!! ♥
PLAY NICE...
NOW THAT WE'RE SIBLINGS, WE'RE GONNA HAVE LOTS OF FUN!
PSSHT!
THAT'S LAME...
HE IS NOT YOUR "BIG BRO"!! ADDRESS YOUR "OLDER BROTHER" WITH RESPECT!
...THIS TURBULENT WORLD MUST BE SET R'IGHT FROM THE COURTYARD STREWN WITH BLOSSOMS, A BEAM OF LIGHT HAS BEGUN TO ILLUMINATE A PATH TOWARDS A PEACEFUL FUTURE
FROM THE CORRUPTION OF THE CHINESE IMPERIAL COURT TO THE FEARSOME, MAGIC-WIELDING MOBS OF THE HUANG JIN REBELS...

Chapter Two
A JOURNEY TO SAVE A NATION
WE HAVE TO MAKE IT TO THAT VILLAGE!


CRAP! IF THAT'S HOW IT IS--
DAMN YOU PEOPLE! THE COUNTRY'S GOING TO HELL AND YOU JUST LOOK THE OTHER WAY?!

?!
トリィ
HEY, YOU!
WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING?!

ZHANG FEI... THAT'S ENOUGH.
AS LONG AS EVERYTHING'S FINE FOR YOU, OUR COUNTRY CAN JUST GO TO HELL, HUH?!!


TOWNS-PEOPLE!!

.....

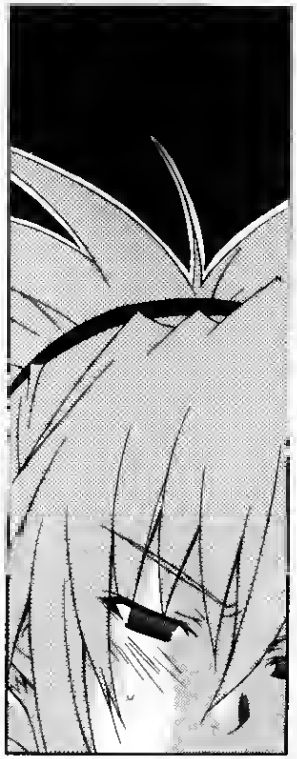
WILL YOU JOIN US IN THE FIGHT AGAINST THE HUANG JIN?!!

?
LADY! LADY!
.....
I'LL FIGHT WITH YA!!
HEH! YOU?

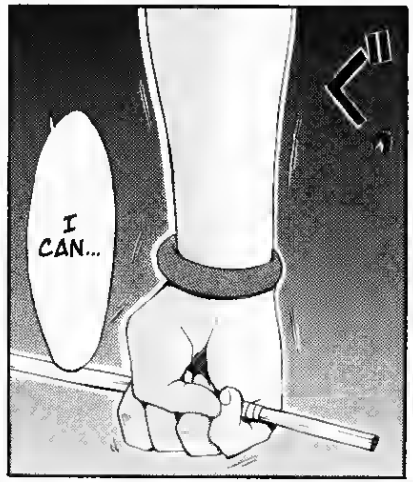
IT'S POINTLESS TO TRY AND RECRUIT PEOPLE WHO HAVE NO SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY TO OTHERS.
GUAN YU...
BUT GUAN YU!
THEY'LL JUST HOLD US BACK.
DON'T YOU REALIZE WHAT A STRUGGLE WE GO THROUGH JUST TO GET BY?!
LEAVE ME THE HELL ALONE, YOU STUPID WOMEN!
HOW DARE YOU SAY SUCH A THING?

H-
HEY
!!
!!
POOR KID...
ZHANG FEI, DON'T YOU THINK YOU WERE A LITTLE HARD ON THE BOY?

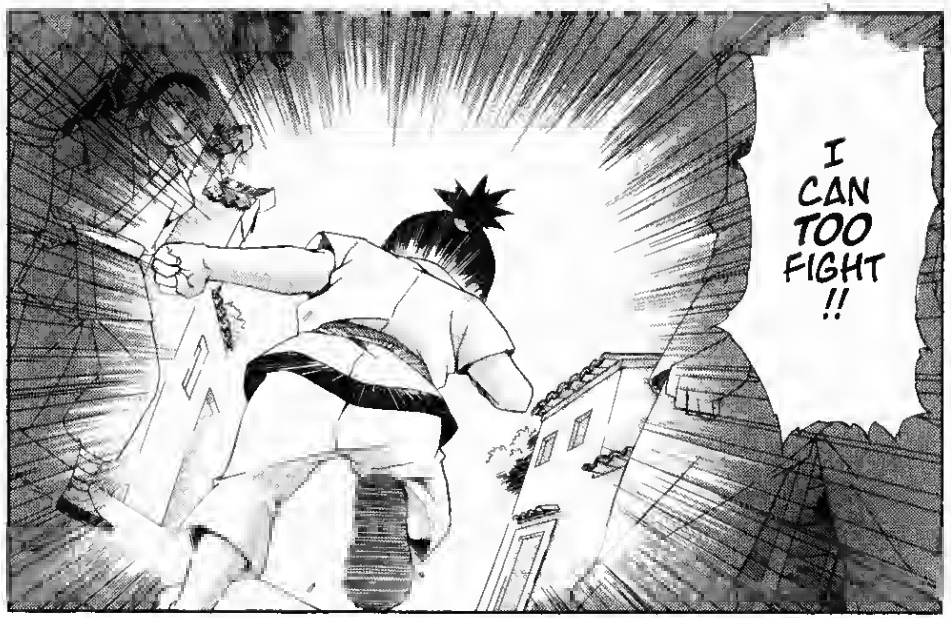
I ACTED JUST LIKE ALL THOSE PEOPLE WHO WON'T TAKE US SERIOUSLY!


"JUST A KID."
"JUST A WOMAN."

I...


I CAN...

A SQUIRT LIKE YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO DO MUCH.
THIS ISN'T PLAYTIME.


I CAN TOO FIGHT !!

THAT LITTLE SQUIRT
BUT MY BROTHER AND GUAN YU AND I, WE'RE SUPPOSED TO FIGHT AS ONE NOW...

WHY SHOULD I CARE?

THE KID'S IN TROUBLE, HURRY!!
H-HEY!!

ZHANG FEI?

ビュン
OOMPH!

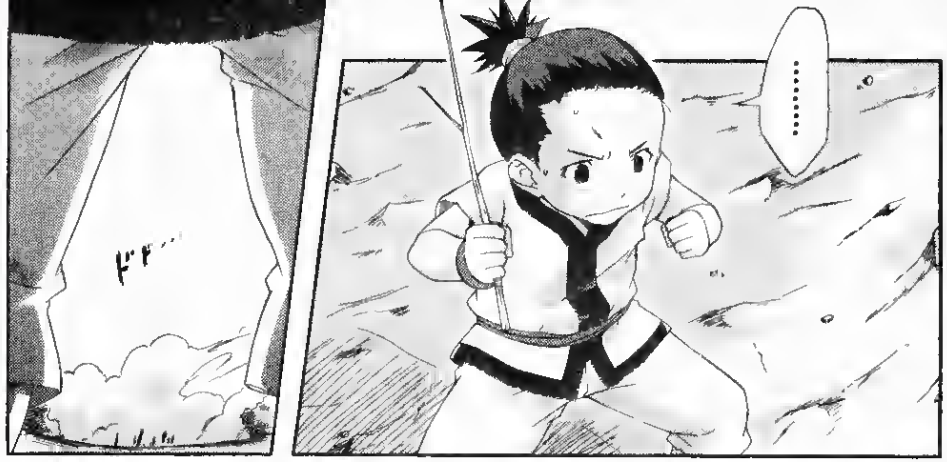
!!

BAD NEWS!!

--FEI!
"JUST A KID."
"JUST A WOMAN."
ZHANG FEI!!

THERE'RE SOME MERCHANTS RIDING HARD INTO TOWN--AND THEY'VE GOT THE HUANG JIN HOT ON THEIR TAIL!!
AND I SAW THAT BOY RUNNING OUT TOWARDS THEM!!

THE BOY?!


.....

AH
HH...
!!!

I JUST PREVENTED AN IDIOT FROM GETTING HERSELF KILLED.

THAT'S RIGHT.
DION'T WE JUST PROMISE TO WORK TOGETHER?

YOWCH!
WHAT WAS WITH THAT?

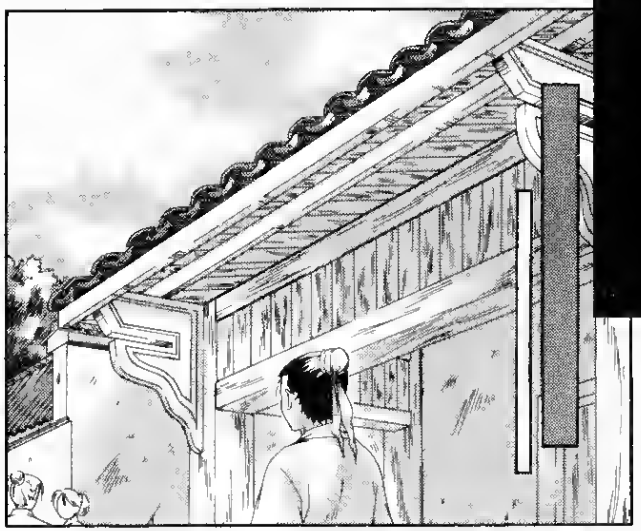
WHATEVER...! WE GOTTA HURRY UP AND HELP THAT KID!!
RIGHT!!

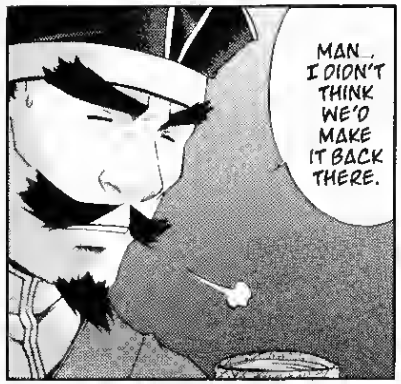
YOU GUYS...

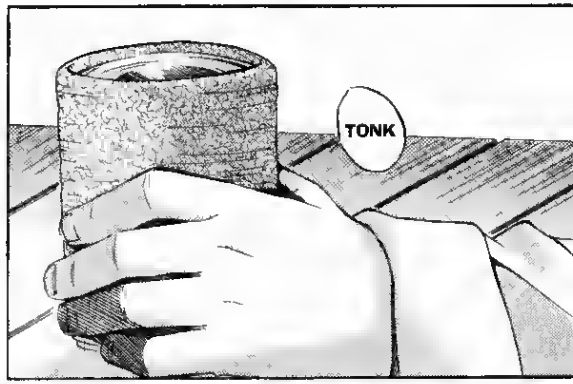
ZHANG FEI! THEY'RE COMING!!
YES! JUST A LITTLE MORE!
I THINK WE MADE IT!
ドドドド
ROBBERS ...?!
UP AHEAD ...!
YO, SQUIRT !!
I GET IT !!
I... I...
I...
LET'S THE FOUR OF US COMBINE OUR POWER AND TAKE DOWN THE BAD GUYS!!
YEAH !!
WHETHER YOU'RE AN ADULT OR CHILD, MALE OR FEMALE...
...IF YOU HAVE THE WILL TO FIGHT, IT SHOULDN'T MATTER!!

UNBELIEV-ABLE!!
!!!
TH-THOSE
THOSE KIDS DID THIS?!
RUN AWAY IF YOU WANT TO!
DON'T BE STUPID! WHY SHOULD WE DIE, TOO?!
NO!! THEY MUST BE ALLIES!
YOU COWARD!
FINE, I'LL GO ALONE!
BUT THERE'S SO FEW OF THEM! WE HAVE TO HELP!

I COULD NOT BELIEVE MY EYES.
BUT! VERY IMPRESSIVE STRENGTH, YOU YOUNG 'UNS.
YOU MUST BE STRONG INDEED TO TAKE DOWN ALL THOSE HUANG JIN.




MAN_, I DIDN'T THINK WE'D MAKE IT BACK THERE.


TONK

WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO BE OUR BODYGUARDS?
WE CAN COMPENSATE YOU HANDSOMELY.

SO, WHAT DO YOU SAY TO THIS?

HMPH!
WE? YOU CHICKENED OUT, IF I RECALL.

TAKE ALL THESE HORSES !!
ALL OF THEM ?!!
BUT, OUR MISSION...
...IS TO RESTORE THE CHINESE ROYALTY TO POWER.
THANKS FOR THE OFFER.
I GOT IT! COME HERE A SECOND.
OH? YOU'RE FULL OF SURPRISES. THAT'S A PRETTY BIG DREAM YOU HAVE.
I SUPPOSE I CAN'T COMPETE AGAINST THAT.
TO DO THAT, GUAN YU AND ZHANG FEI HAVE ENTRUSTED THEIR LIVES TO ME. SO, WE CAN HAVE NO OTHER MASTER. WE MUST WALK OUR OWN PATH.

...HM?

WHAA?!!

HERE.

IS THAT MY PERSONAL SAVINGS?!

CATCH!!

MISS SU SHU-ANG!
THERE'S NO NEED FOR THAT...!
H-HE'S RIGHT!!

OH MY!

MAMA?!

OH. RIGHT.

LORD, MUST YOU BE SUCH A PENNY PINCHER?
WE ONLY HAVE THESE HORSES THANKS TO THEM.
WHAT RIGHT DO WE HAVE TO THEM NOW?

EH?!
ALTHOUGH, IS THAT GOING TO BE ENOUGH MONEY TO FEED ALL YOUR BUDDIES?

TH-THIS IS--!!
じゃら

?!

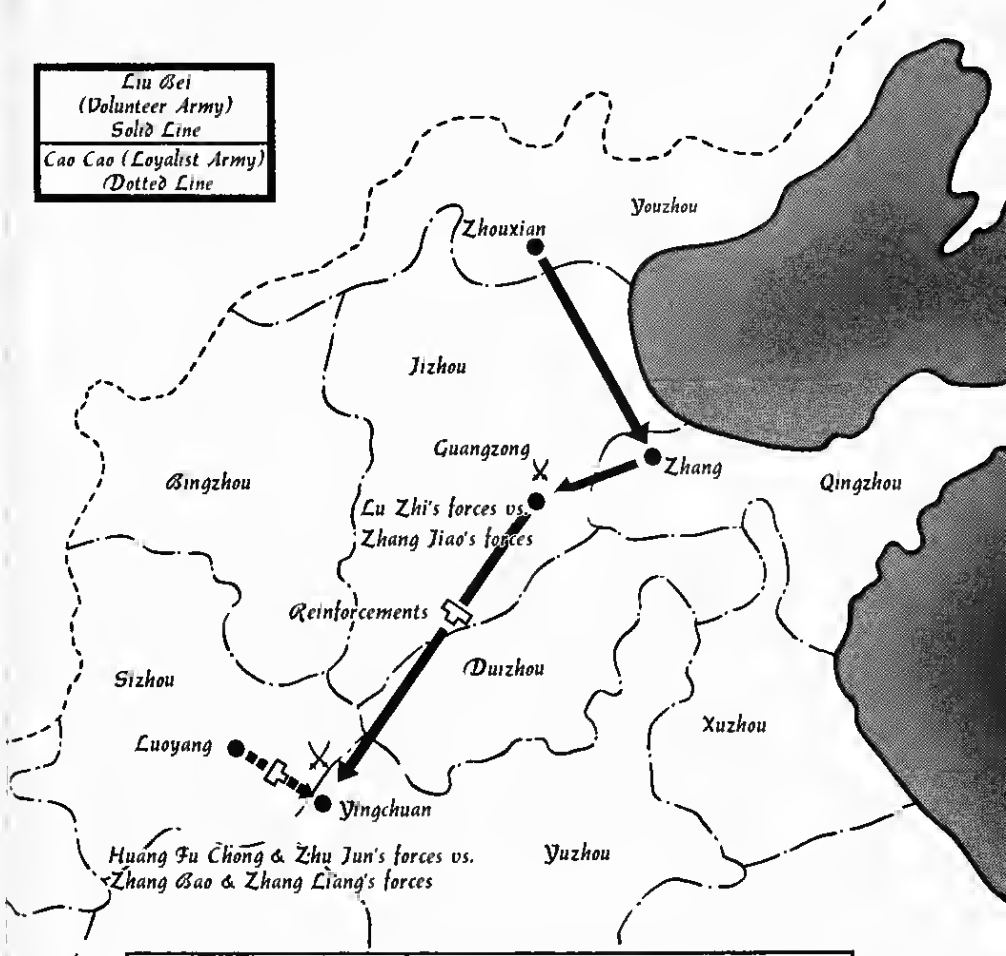
THANKS MA--
MA'AM?
IT'S MISS!!

PAY US BACK LATER, OKAY? AFTER YOU RESTORE PEACE TO CHINA.
ALTHOUGH IF YOU REALLY HIT THE BIG TIME, THEN YOU CAN PAY US BACK THREEFOLD, RIGHT?

LIU BEI! FROM THIS DAY FORTH, YOU WILL BE OUR GENERAL!
AND SO, LIU BEI XUANDE AND THE VOLUNTEER ARMY WERE SENT OFF BY THE PEOPLE OF LOU SANG VILLAGE. THOUGH THEY HAD LITTLE EQUIPMENT AND FEW SOLDIERS, THEY TOOK THEIR FIRST STEPS ON THEIR JOURNEY TO MEET THE GOVERNOR OF YOUZHOU, LIU YAN.
WHOA!
WE KNOW WE CAN COUNT ON YOU!

I HEARD ABOUT HOW YOU SAVED MY CHILD'S LIFE BACK THERE
YOU APOL-OGIZE NOW!!
UM...
UP 'TIL NOW I'VE THOUGHT I COULD JUST LIVE MY OWN LIFE AND IGNORE THE WORLD AROUND ME. BUT, SEEING THESE WOMEN FIGHT HAS OPENED MY EYES.
IT GOT ME THINKING, ABOUT A LOT OF THINGS.
WE'VE ALL WOKEN UP! LET US JOIN YOU!
AH, WAIT A SECOND
I'VE CHANGED MY MIND. LET ME FIGHT WITH YOU!
IT'S WHAT I WANT!

PANT! PANT!
I-I'M GONNA DIE...! NO TIME FOR MAGIC-- I GOTTA GET OUTTA HERE!!
BROTHER ZHANG BAO?!
ZHANG LIANG COULD AT LEAST COME HELP...!
THIS MAN HERE SAVED MY LIFE. AND I SEE YOU'VE MANAGED TO STAY ALIVE AS WELL, BROTHER...
THAT'S ZHANG LIANG'S VOICE!
HE'S ALIVE !!
General of the Land, Zhang Bao.
Younger brother to the General of the Heavens, Zhang Jiao Second-in-Command of the Huang Jin



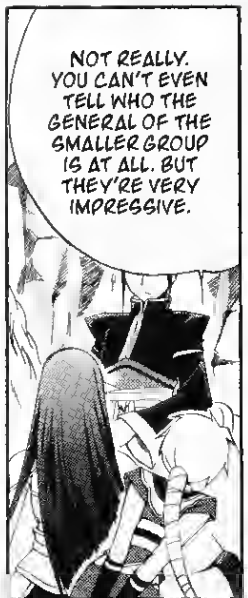
PEACE IN THE ALREADY TURBULENT REGION WAS STEADILY DETERIORATING. ZHANG JIAO, ZHANG BAO AND ZHANG LIANG REPEATEDLY LED THEIR REBEL HUANG JIN ARMY INTO BATTLES AGAINST THE LOYALIST FORCES ACROSS EVERY REGION IN THE LAND. LIU BEI'S FORCES FIRST FACED ZHANG JIAO AND THE MAIN BODY OF THE HUANG JIN ARMY ALONGSIDE GENERAL LU ZHI AND THE LOYALIST ARMY. IMMEDIATELY AFTERWARDS, THEY CONTINUED FORTH AS REINFORCEMENTS TO AID THE STRUGGLING FORCES IN YINGCHUAN, LED BY GENERALS HUANG FU CHONG AND ZHU JUN. AWAITING THEM IN YINGCHUAN WERE ZHANG BAO, THE "GENERAL OF THE LAND" AND ZHANG LIANG, THE "GENERAL OF THE PEOPLE". AT THE SAME TIME, CAO CAO (MENGDE) SET FORTH FROM CHINA'S CAPITAL, LUOYANG, WITH LOYALIST FORCES TO JOIN THE BATTLE IN YINGCHUAN. HERE, LIU BEI WOULD ENGAGE THE HUANG JIN ARMY'S SECOND AND THIRD IN COMMAND IN ADDITION TO MEETING HIS GREATEST RIVAL, CAO CAO.

YOU COULDN'T USE YOUR MAGIC, COULD YOU? IS THAT WHY YOU RAN AWAY?
BROTHER...
General of the People, Zhang Liang. Youngest of the Zhang siblings. Third-in-Command
HUH... UH, YEAH! I COULDN'T USE MY MAGIC.
I HAD NO IDEA...
I BET THIS HAPPENED TO ZHANG JIAO, TOO!
OUR ARMY IS COMPLETELY OUTNUMBERED WITHOUT MAGIC AS OUR TRUMP CARD, WE HAVE NO CHANCE
AND I'M WORRIED ABOUT OUR BROTHER. WE SHOULD GO BACK TO JIZHOU AND JOIN UP WITH THE MAIN REGIMENT. IT SHOULD HELP TURN THE TIDES.
HMPH!
BASTARDS! ALL THIS TROUBLE FROM SUCH A TINY BAND OF RIFF-RAFF!
WE USED TO WIN SO EASILY!!
TAKE ME TO YOUR LEADER, REBEL SCUM!!
ビシッ
.....
ZH-ZHANG FEI! THAT'S AN ALLY!
EH?! FOR REAL?!
URYAAA!!
AAH.
I SAID, WHERE ARE YOUR LEADERS?!
I'M NOT MESSING WITH THAT MONSTER!
LET'S GET OUTTA HERE!!
AH! WAIT!!

CAN THE ARMIES BE TOLD APART?

CAO CAO

MOVE OUT! OUR FORCES WILL SWARM AND SWALLOW THE BATTLEFIELD! PREPARE YOUR BATTLE FORMATIONS!
WE'LL ROLL OVER THAT PUNY RAG TAG ARMY WHEREVER THEY MAY BE ON THE FIELD, THEN.


NOT REALLY. YOU CAN'T EVEN TELL WHO THE GENERAL OF THE SMALLER GROUP IS AT ALL. BUT THEY'RE VERY IMPRESSIVE.

HE SAID THE FIGHTING IS VERY CHAOTIC AND FIERCE! NO WAY TO TELL WHO WILL WIN.
XIAHOU YUAN (COUSIN TO CAO CAO)

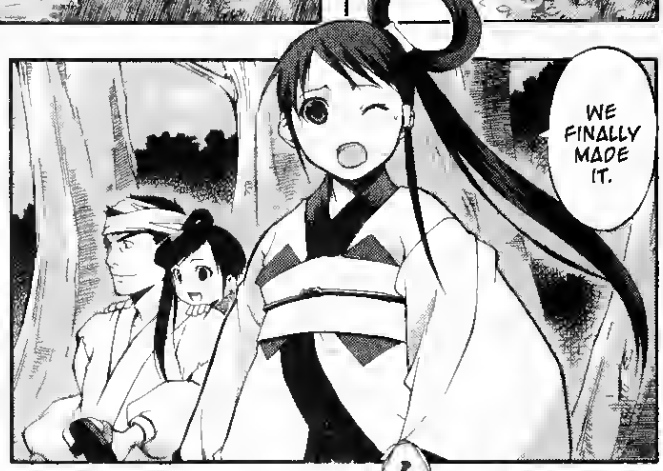
MENGDE

OUR SCOUT HAS LOCATED ZHANG BAO AND ZHANG LIANG'S POSITION EIGHT MILES AHEAD.
XIAHOU DUN (COUSIN TO CAO CAO)

SHOULD WE DROP ON BY, MENGDE?

JIZHOU

ううーん…
もう…


WE FINALLY MADE IT.

うーん…
もう…
IS THAT...
...A FORBIDDEN HEALING SPELL I HEAR?

D-DAMN! THIS SUCKS!!

THIS HAS GOT TO BE A SAFE DISTANCE...

NUUUUU...
!!
WATCH OUT! SHE'S GONNA USE MAGIC!!

ZHANG BAO! ZHANG LIANG! I'VE FOUND YOU!!

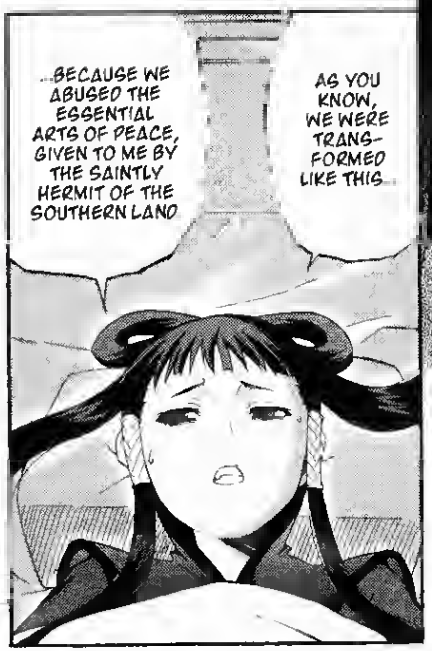
HA! FOOLED YOU!!

SO IT WOULD SEEM, BUT...

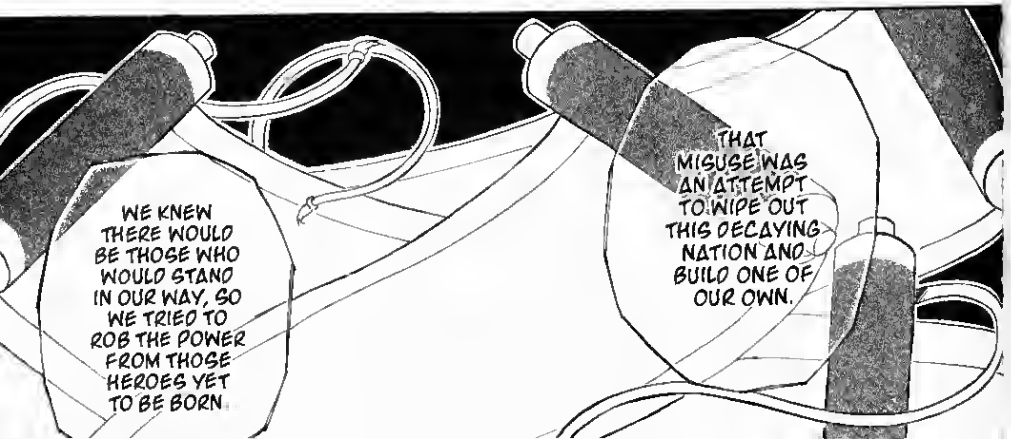
Chapter Three
A DISBANDED UNION

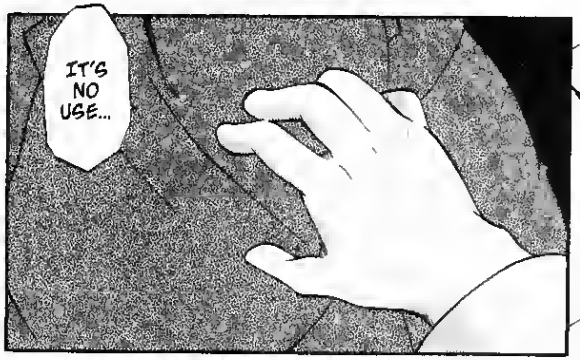
WE EVEN TRIED THE SPECIAL HEALING TECHNIQUES HE TAUGHT US. UNFORTUNATELY...
WELL...
THE LOYALIST ARMY CAME TO JULU AND HE WAS STRUCK DOWN DURING THE ENCOUNTER.
!!
BROTHER ZHANG JIAO...?!
WHAT THE HELL HAPPENED WHILE WE WERE GONE?!

YOU MEAN WHEN WE...?
A CURSE?

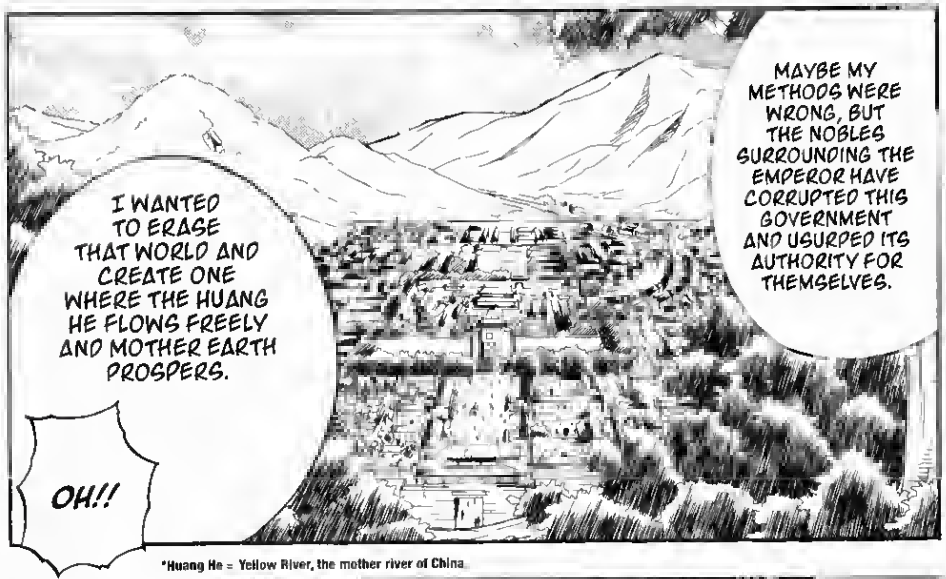

...BECAUSE WE ABUSED THE ESSENTIAL ARTS OF PEACE, GIVEN TO ME BY THE SAINTLY HERMIT OF THE SOUTHERN LAND.
AS YOU KNOW, WE WERE TRANS-FORMED LIKE THIS.

AND...
...THE CURSE WILL AFFECT ALL OF US, NOT JUST ME.
NOW LISTEN WELL.

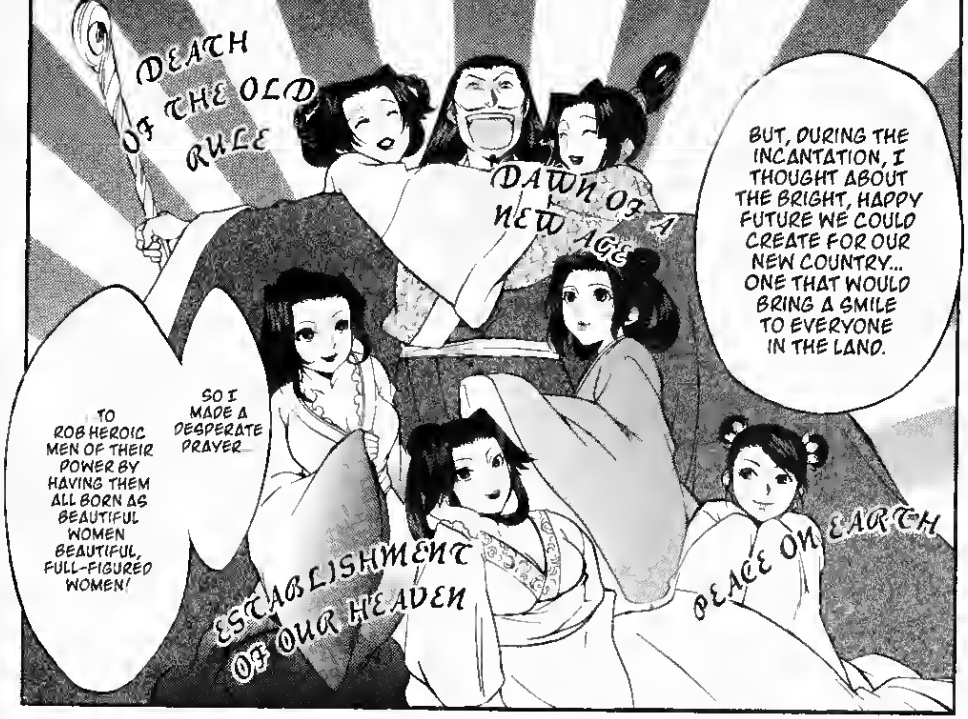

WE KNEW THERE WOULD BE THOSE WHO WOULD STAND IN OUR WAY, SO WE TRIED TO ROB THE POWER FROM THOSE HEROES YET TO BE BORN.
THAT MISUSE WAS AN ATTEMPT TO WIPE OUT THIS DECAYING NATION AND BUILD ONE OF OUR OWN.


IT'S NO USE...

IT'S THE CURSE OF THE SCROLLS.
THIS IS NO ILLNESS.


I WANTED TO ERASE THAT WORLD AND CREATE ONE WHERE THE HUANG HE FLOWS FREELY AND MOTHER EARTH PROSPERS.
MAYBE MY METHODS WERE WRONG, BUT THE NOBLES SURROUNDING THE EMPEROR HAVE CORRUPTED THIS GOVERNMENT AND USURPED ITS AUTHORITY FOR THEMSELVES.
OH!!

*Huang He = Yellow River, the mother river of China


DEATH OF THE OLD RULE
DAWN OF A NEW AGE
BUT, DURING THE INCANTATION, I THOUGHT ABOUT THE BRIGHT, HAPPY FUTURE WE COULD CREATE FOR OUR NEW COUNTRY... ONE THAT WOULD BRING A SMILE TO EVERYONE IN THE LAND.
SO I MADE A DESPERATE PRAYER...
TO ROB HEROIC MEN OF THEIR POWER BY HAVING THEM ALL BORN AS BEAUTIFUL WOMEN BEAUTIFUL, FULL-FIGURED WOMEN!
ESTABLISHMENT OF OUR HEAVEN
PEACE ON EARTH

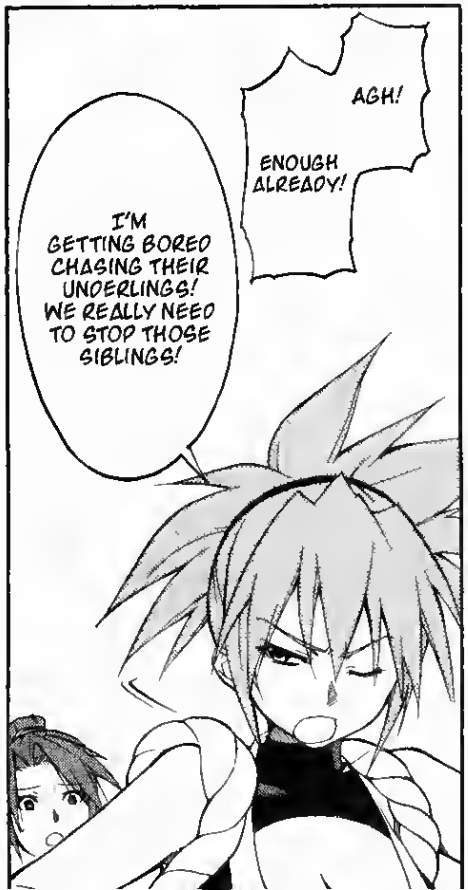
バタン!!
A FEW DAYS EARLIER.

...THE CURSE SEEMS TO HAVE GIVEN HER INCREDIBLE STRENGTH... JUST LIKE A MAN.
AH, BUT NO ONE TAKES HER SERIOUSLY. THAT'S WHY THE VOLUNTEER ARMY IS SO SMALL.

STILL, THIS COULD BE A SIDE-EFFECT THAT WE DIDN'T PLAN ON.

I AGREE. LET'S BE SURE TO CONSULT THE STARS TONIGHT.

SINCE WHEN WERE YOU SATISFIED WITH JUST KILLING SMALL FRY?


AGH!
ENOUGH ALREADY!
I'M GETTING BORED CHASING THEIR UNDERLINGS! WE REALLY NEED TO STOP THOSE SIBLINGS!

YOU SAID YOU WANTED TO SAVE THIS COUNTRY, DIDN'T YOU? WELL, I DON'T SEE ANYBODY SMILING AND LAUGHING IN PEACE YET!
DID YOU WAKE UP FROM YOUR DREAM?!

WHAT HAVE WE DONE THAT WAS SO GREAT?!

I ALMOST HAD THEM!!
CRAP! THEY GOT AWAY!!

IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT. WE'VE ACCOMPLISHED SO MUCH ALREADY, DON'T YOU THINK?

.....

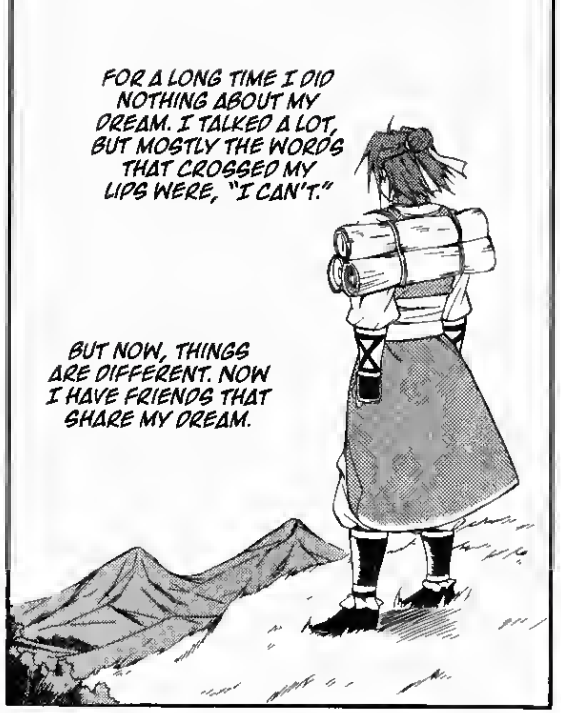
IF WE'D CAPTURED THOSE SIBLING GENERALS, WE MIGHT HAVE BEEN LET INTO THE LOYALIST ARMY!

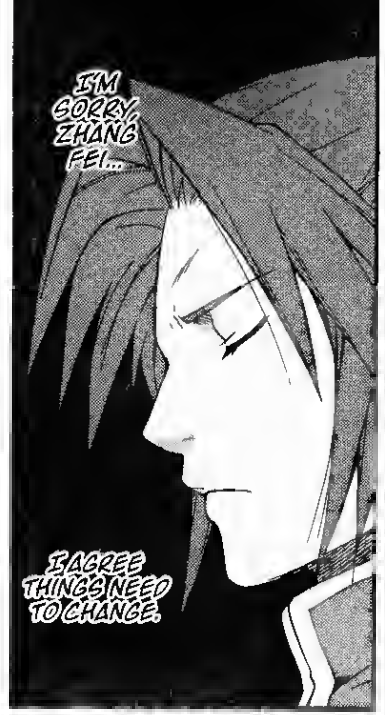
.....
WHAT CAN I SAY?

LET'S MOVE FORWARD AS ONE!

THIS IS YOUR LAST CHANCE, THOUGH.

...I UNDER-STAND.
Let's go join every one!


FOR A LONG TIME I DID NOTHING ABOUT MY DREAM. I TALKED A LOT, BUT MOSTLY THE WORDS THAT CROSSED MY LIPS WERE, "I CAN'T."
BUT NOW, THINGS ARE DIFFERENT. NOW I HAVE FRIENDS THAT SHARE MY DREAM.


I'M SORRY, ZHANG FEI...
I AGREE THINGS NEED TO CHANGE.

BEFORE I SAY, "I CAN'T," I'LL THINK OF EVERYTHING I CAN DO.
YOU'RE RIGHT. "CAN'T" DOESN'T BELONG IN MY VOCABULARY.

I'LL NEVER SAY, "I CAN'T," AGAIN!!
バン

I NEED TO PUSH FORWARD AND NOT LOSE SIGHT OF THE GOAL.

THE HUANG JIN ARE JUST RABBLE, ANYWAY THEY'RE NO MATCH FOR THE RIGOROUSLY-TRAINED LOYALIST FORCES.
MAYBE SOME OF THE MORE ELITE LOYALIST FIGHTERS DISPENSED WITH THEM JUST BEFORE WE ARRIVED.
WHAT IN THE WORLD COULD HAVE HAPPENED?
HUH ...?
IS THE FIGHT OVER?
LOOK, YUAN... YELLOW SCARVES. ALL THE DEAD BODIES ARE WEARING YELLOW SCARVES ON THEIR HEADS.
I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT THEY LOST.
!!
DUN, YUAN. WE'RE DONE HERE.
JUST SWEEP UP ANY HUANG JIN SURVIVORS.

KYA!!

?!!

L-LOWER YOUR WEAPON!
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!

!!

!!
!!
ザザザザザ…
……!!!
GUAN YU! ARE YOU OKAY?!
GO TO HELL

...ARE ON YOUR SIDE!!

!!!!

DAMMIT! BACK OFF OF GUAN YU!
EAT THIS, YOU WRETCHED REBELS!!

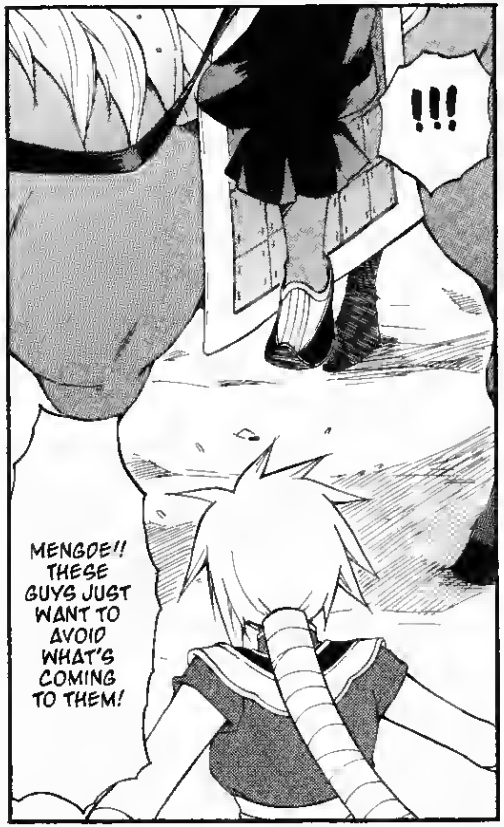
W-WAIT... THE HUANG JIN..
THE HUANG JIN..
.....!

WE ARE A VOLUNTEER ARMY *FIGHTING* THE HUANG JIN

WHO ARE YOU?

ZHANG FEI

WHAT ?!
WHERE DID YOU GET THAT IDEA?!!


!!!
MENGDE!! THESE GUYS JUST WANT TO AVOID WHAT'S COMING TO THEM!

WE WERE CHASING THE HUANG JIN THIS WAY, SO WHEN WE SAW YOU HERE, WE ASSUMED IT WAS AN AMBUSH.

BUT, IT'S YOU GUYS...!
YOU'RE THE ONES WITH THE HUANG JIN!

YES, IT'S THE TRUTH.
YOU THERE, ARE YOU TELLING THE TRUTH?
EXCUSE ME, XIAHOU YUAN
WOULD YOU SHUT UP FOR A SECOND?
OH...?
WE CAME FROM JIZHOU TO SUPPORT ZHU JUN'S FORCES IN YINGCHUAN.
ON THE WAY, WE SPOTTED ZHANG BAO AND ZHANG LIANG'S CAMP AND TOOK THEM BY SURPRISE.
.....

I AM LIU BEI XUANDE OF ZHUOXIAN.
ALSO..

WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

DID YOU TAKE THOSE TWO DOWN?

ZHANG BAO, ZHANG LIANG

...GUAN YU.

...THESE TWO ARE MY BRETHREN.
ZHANG FEI AND...

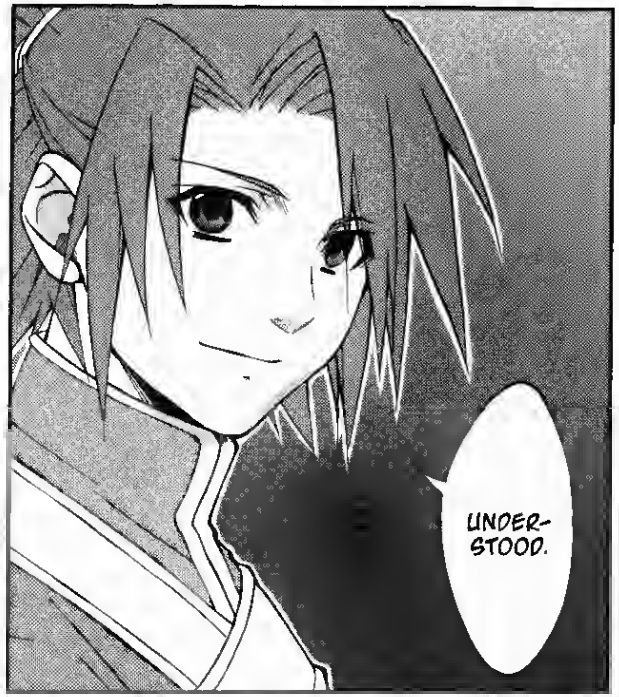
ONLY 500...?!
THE HUANG JIN HAVE THOUSANDS, IF NOT TENS OF THOUSANDS ON THEIR SIDE. THEY WERE ABLE TO ROUT THEM HERE WITH ONLY 500?

NO.
WITH BUT 500 TROOPS WE DID THE BEST THAT WE COULD. BUT UNFORTUNATELY, WE LOST SIGHT OF THEM.

I AM CAO CAO MENGDE. I TRAVELED HERE FROM LUOYANG WITH MOUNTED SOLDIERS TO REINFORCE ZHU JUN'S ARMY.

I'LL REMEMBER YOU.

.....


UNDER-
STOOD.

WE CAN HANDLE FINISHING UP HERE!

LEAVE THE SURVIVORS TO US AND HEAD TO ZHU JUN'S CAMP.
TELL THEM WE'LL BE ALONG AFTERWARD.

DID HE JUST TRY TO CHALLENGE ME?

DID HE JUST...

YOU'RE SHORT ON SOLDIERS AS IT IS.
NOW, RETURN TO CAMP BEFORE YOU LOSE YOUR USEFULNESS.

ARE WE THE SAME? OR...
LIU BEI XUANDE... WHAT DO THOSE FIERCE EYES GAZE AT?

AH... EITHER WAY, THE TIME WILL COME.

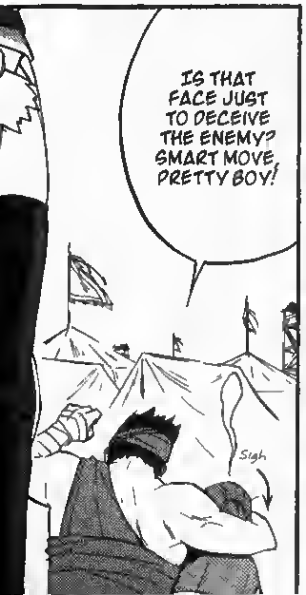
THAT BUSHY-HEADED JERK CALLED US HUANG JIN! SHE'S THE ONE WHO LOOKS LIKE A HUANG JIN!

THAT LITTLE PUKE!!

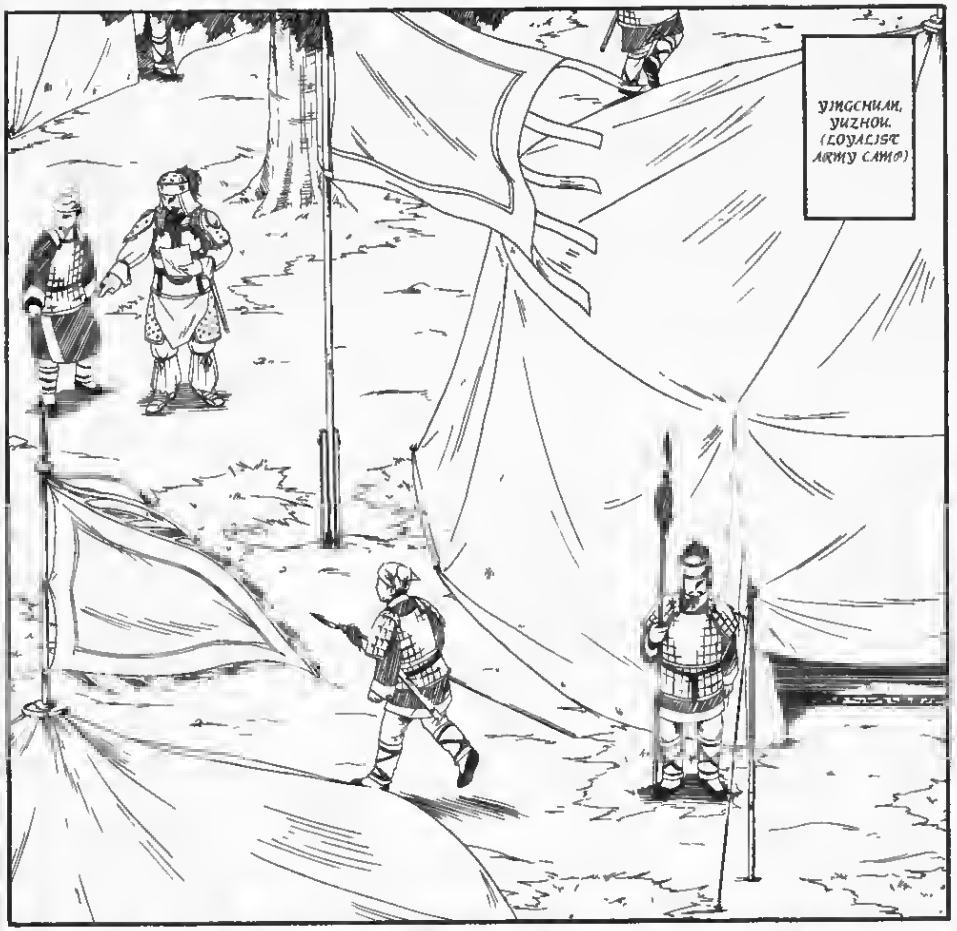
THEY HAD SUCH DETERMINATION IN THEIR EYES I'D LIKE TO FIGHT THEM AGAIN.

YOU CAN DO ANYTHING, SIR LIU BEI!
THANK YOU!

BUT WITHOUT YOUR ORDERS IN BATTLE, I WOULDA BEEN A LOT WORSE OFF THAN THIS.
Y'KNOW... I KINDA HAD MY DOUBTS AT FIRST. YOU DIDN'T SEEM LIKE SOMEONE WE COULD DEPEND ON.


IS THAT FACE JUST TO DECEIVE THE ENEMY? SMART MOVE, PRETTY BOY!
Sigh

I GUESS YOU'RE REALLY SOMETHING BEHIND THAT STUPID GRIN.


YINGCHUAN, YUZHOU. (LOYALIST ARMY CAMP)

I THINK IT'S MORE IMPORTANT TO BOND WITH MY MEN THAN TO MAKE BATTLE PLANS WITHOUT THEM.
...I DON'T NEED TO ATTEND SOME MEETING IN ORDER TO BE ABLE TO FIGHT.

THIS IS NO TIME TO BE FOOLING AROUND!
THE MEETING TO PLAN THE NEXT BATTLE IS ALREADY STARTING! WHAT ARE YOU DOING OUT HERE?

BIG BRO !!

GOOD TIMING, ZHANG FEI...

WAIT, ZHANG FEI!!
WELL, I DON'T LIKE THIS!

BE-SIDES...
THEY'LL NEVER LET SOME SORRY LEADER OF VOLUNTEERS PARTICIPATE.
THAT MEETING IS BEING HELD BY THE OFFICIAL LEADERS OF THE LOYALIST ARMY.
WHAT AM I DOING, YOU ASK?

HUH! YOU'RE A RARE ONE YOURSELF. I WAS JUST ABOUT TO ENTER THIS MEETING.

IF YOU WON'T FORCE YOUR WAY IN, I WILL!

DAMMIT!

GUAN YU! ZHANG FEI!

WHAT? YOU'RE WITH HER, TOO?

GUAN YU!!

HOW MANY TIMES MUST I TELL YOU? I MUST BE GRANTED ENTRANCE.

WHAT'S IT TO YOU? JUST LET US IN TO SEE CAO CAO!

HAH!
YOU'RE ONE OF A KIND, GUAN YU. WHAT'S GOING ON?
Sigh!

WHAT THE HELL...
...ARE YOU TWO DOING?!
WHAT, YOU ASK?
WE'RE TRYING TO GET IN ON THIS BATTLE PLANNING, BUT THESE GUYS WON'T LET US
...ASKED YOU TO DO THAT!
NOBODY
WHAT-EVER
YOU KNOW WHAT? NO MATTER WHAT WE DO, NOTHING'S EVER GOOD ENOUGH
EVEN THOUGH WE HAVE THE SAME GOALS, EVEN THOUGH WE ALL PUT OUR LIVES ON THE LINE
NO ONE ASKED US, BUT...
IT'S THAT IMPOR-TANT?
JUST BECAUSE WE'RE "VOLUNTEERS" WE GET PUSHED OUT OF THE PICTURE?! WE'RE JUST THE LOYALIST ARMY'S TRASH?!
SOME-THING'S GOTTA CHANGE OR I'M OUT!

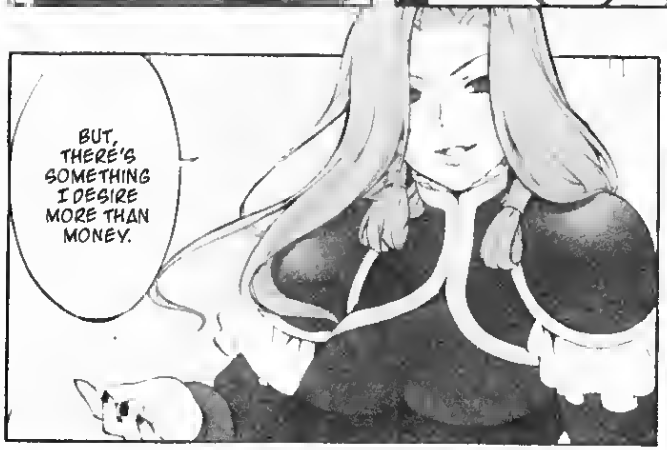
L-L-LADY DONG ZHUO!!
PLANS AND MEETINGS ?!
IF THEY'RE SO DAMN IMPORTANT, GO JOIN THE LOYALIST ARMY!
!
IT'S NOT THAT-- WE JUST --!
I SHOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHO'S CAUSING SUCH A SCENE OUT HERE.
BUT I WARN YOU, I'VE AN URGE FOR PUNISHING TANTRUMS.
SHE'S GONNA PUNISH US? MAYBE IF WE BEG, THEN...!

MORE
THAN YOU HAVE, I SHOULD THINK

IF MONEY'S WHAT YOU NEED, THEN...
...NAME YOUR PRICE!

REALLY? THIS CHARMING LITTLE BOY HERE?

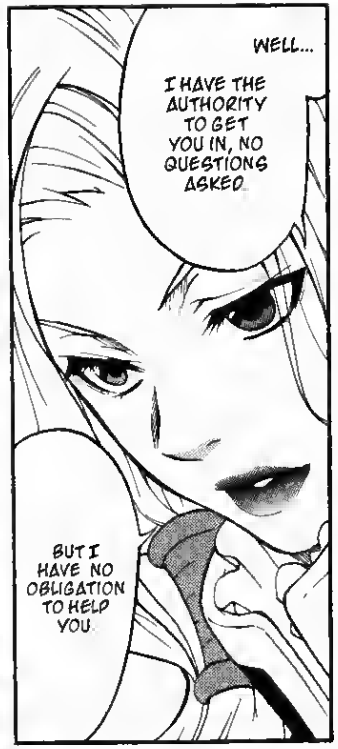
UM.
WE JUST WANT YOU TO ALLOW OUR COMMANDING OFFICER, LIU BEI XUANDE, INTO YOUR MEETING!


BUT, THERE'S SOMETHING I DESIRE MORE THAN MONEY.

.....

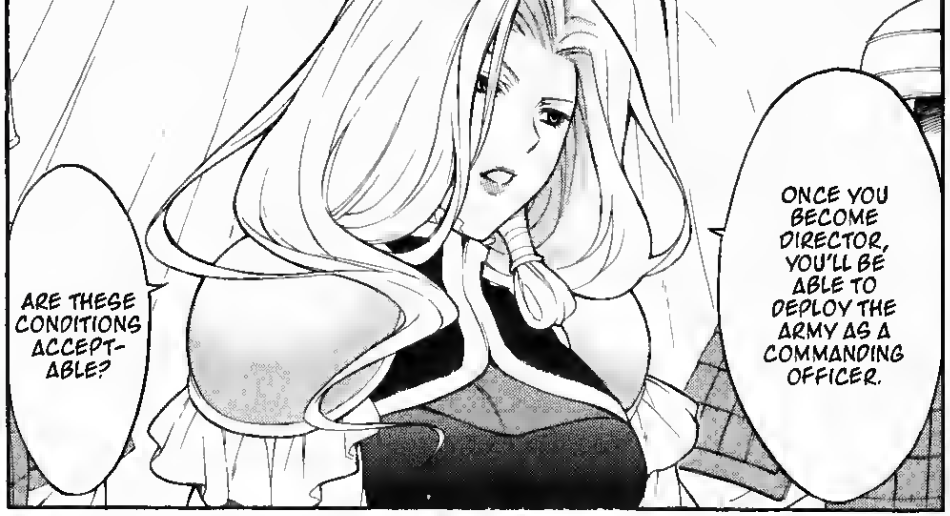
WHAT'S THAT?!

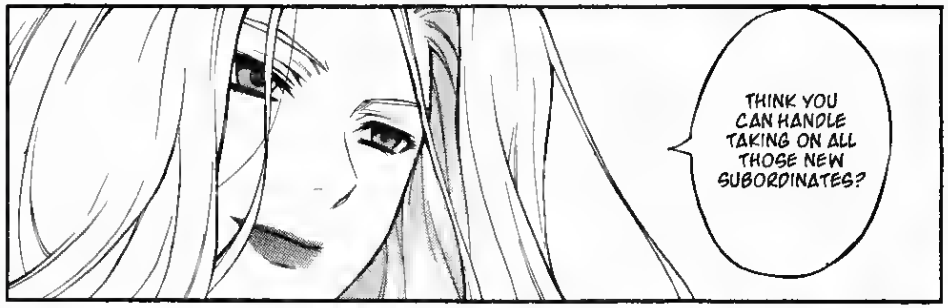
MONEY MAKES THE WORLD GO 'ROUND, DON'T YOU AGREE?
IN THIS WORLD, IF YOU WANT TO GET ANYONE IMPORTANT TO LISTEN YOU MUST HAVE A LOT OF MONEY.

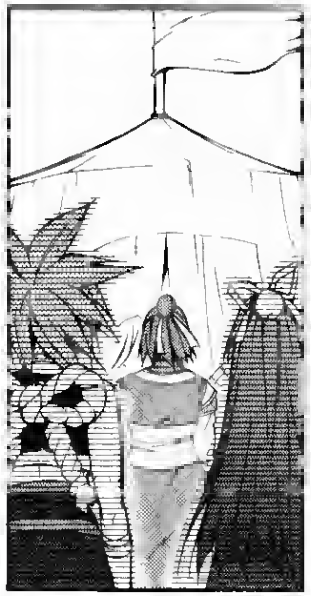

WELL...
I HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO GET YOU IN, NO QUESTIONS ASKED.
BUT I HAVE NO OBLIGATION TO HELP YOU.

OH, I'M NOT JOKING.
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE..
...I'VE SEEN SUCH FINE-LOOKING WOMEN.
WHAT?
STOP JOKING AROUND!
...

WHAT I WANT IS..
...YOU TWO.


ONCE YOU BECOME DIRECTOR, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO DEPLOY THE ARMY AS A COMMANDING OFFICER.
ARE THESE CONDITIONS ACCEPT-ABLE?


THINK YOU CAN HANDLE TAKING ON ALL THOSE NEW SUBORDINATES?



.....

OH MY! SUCH AN ANGRY FACE! ♥

!!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! LET GO!

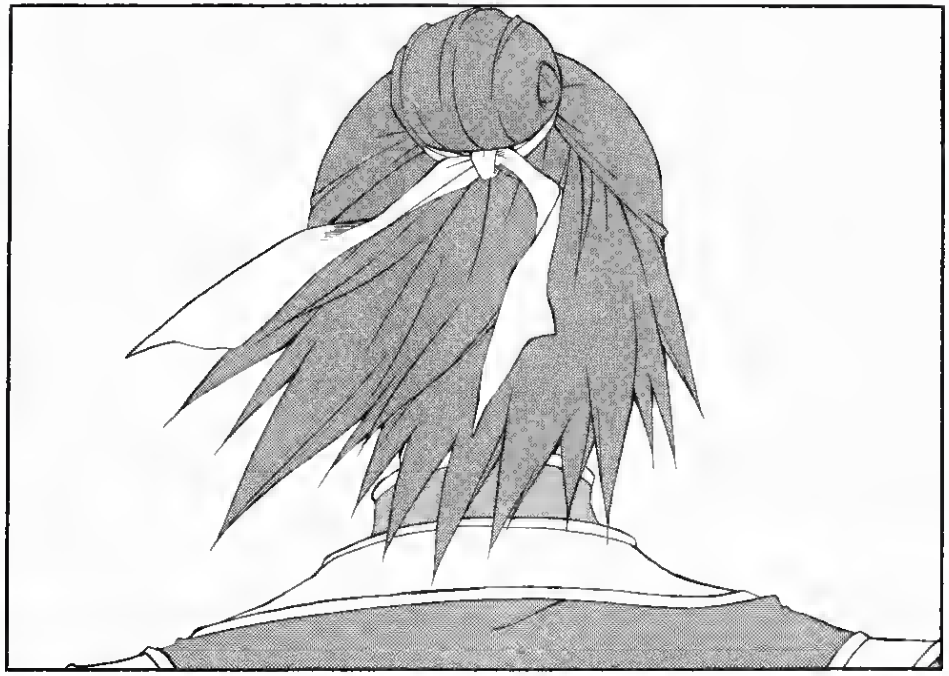
HOW ABOUT "DIRECTOR OF MILITARY AFFAIRS"?

LET'S SEE...
'COURSE I'M NOT SURE WHICH YOU'D BE INTERESTED IN...
IF YOU WERE A LADY, I'D BE HAPPY TO GIVE YOU SOME GOVERNMENT POSITION OR SOMETHING.

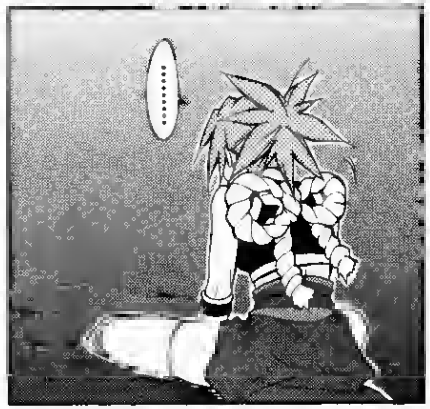
SO, YOU GIVE ME THOSE TWO...
...AND I GIVE YOU YOUR TITLE.

TELL YOU WHAT. I'LL GIVE YOU UNTIL TOMORROW MORNING
UNDER-STAND?
DON'T LET YOUR PITIFUL BELIEFS CAUSE YOU TO MISS ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY.
YOUR ANSWER COULD MAKE YOU THE COMMANDER OF A REAL ARMY.
I'LL KEEP MY FINGERS CROSSED FOR BOTH OF US

I'LL EARN MY RANK WITHOUT SACRIFIC-ING MY COMRADES!
HM. HOW SWEET.
!!
I WON'T EVEN CONSIDER IT. THESE TWO ARE IRREPLACEABLE TO ME.
IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT RANK YOU OFFER, I WON'T GIVE THEM UP.
YOU'LL NEVER SURVIVE UNLESS YOU SWALLOW YOUR PRIDE AND START KISSING ASS TO THOSE IN POWER
BUT, IN THE WORLD TODAY, THOSE SENTIMENTS ARE USELESS.



JUST THINK... "DIRECTOR OF MILITARY AFFAIRS"
RELEASE THOSE TWO TO ME AND I'LL GIVE YOU A GOVERNMENT POSITION.


.....

HUH?!
THE END OF THE ROAD?!
MAYBE THIS IS THE END OF THE ROAD FOR ME.
I SUPPOSE MY THOUGHTS ARE KEEPING ME UP.
I CAN'T COMPETE WITH YOUR STRENGTH IN BATTLE, ZHANG FEI.
IT'S TRUE. EVEN WHEN I TRIED A SNEAK ATTACK ON CAO CAO'S TROOPS, YOU HAD TO SAVE ME.
I GUESS YOU CAN'T SLEEP, EITHER?
GUAN YU...

SOUNDS LIKE SOMEBODY'S GOT A MARTYR COMPLEX!

YOU DIDN'T THINK THAT I COULD PUT MYSELF IN THAT POSITION, DID YOU?

WELL, I WON'T LET YOU GO ALONE, GUAN YU.

TOMORROW I'M GOING WITH DONG ZHUO.
I'M WORRIED ABOUT OUR BROTHER, BUT I'M GLAD YOU'LL BE WITH HIM.

.....!!!
I'LL SEE IF I CAN'T GET HIM THE POSITION BY SERVING DONG ZHUO BY MYSELF.
IT'S THE LEAST I CAN DO...

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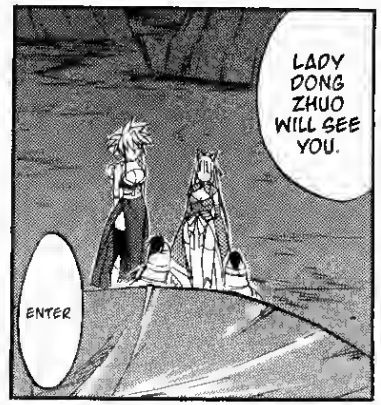
WE'LL GO...
...TO DONG ZHUO TOGETHER.

WHAT BUSINESS DO YOU HAVE AT THIS HOUR?!
WE HAVE SOMETHING TO TELL GENERAL DONG ZHUO
TELL HER GUAN YU YUNCHANG AND ZHANG FEI YIDE ARE HERE

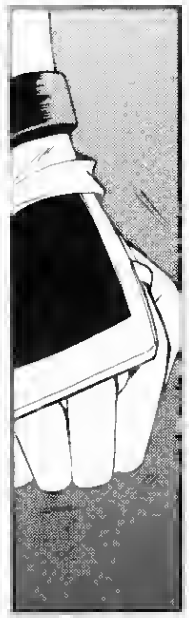
BROTHER
THOUGH WE PART HERE, I'LL NEVER FORGET OUR OATH UNDER THE PEACH BLOSSOMS
Chapter Four
LIU BEI STANDS ALONE

I KNEW YOU WOULD.
HEE HEE SO YOU CAME AFTER ALL.


LADY DONG ZHUO WILL SEE YOU.
ENTER

whisper
whisper

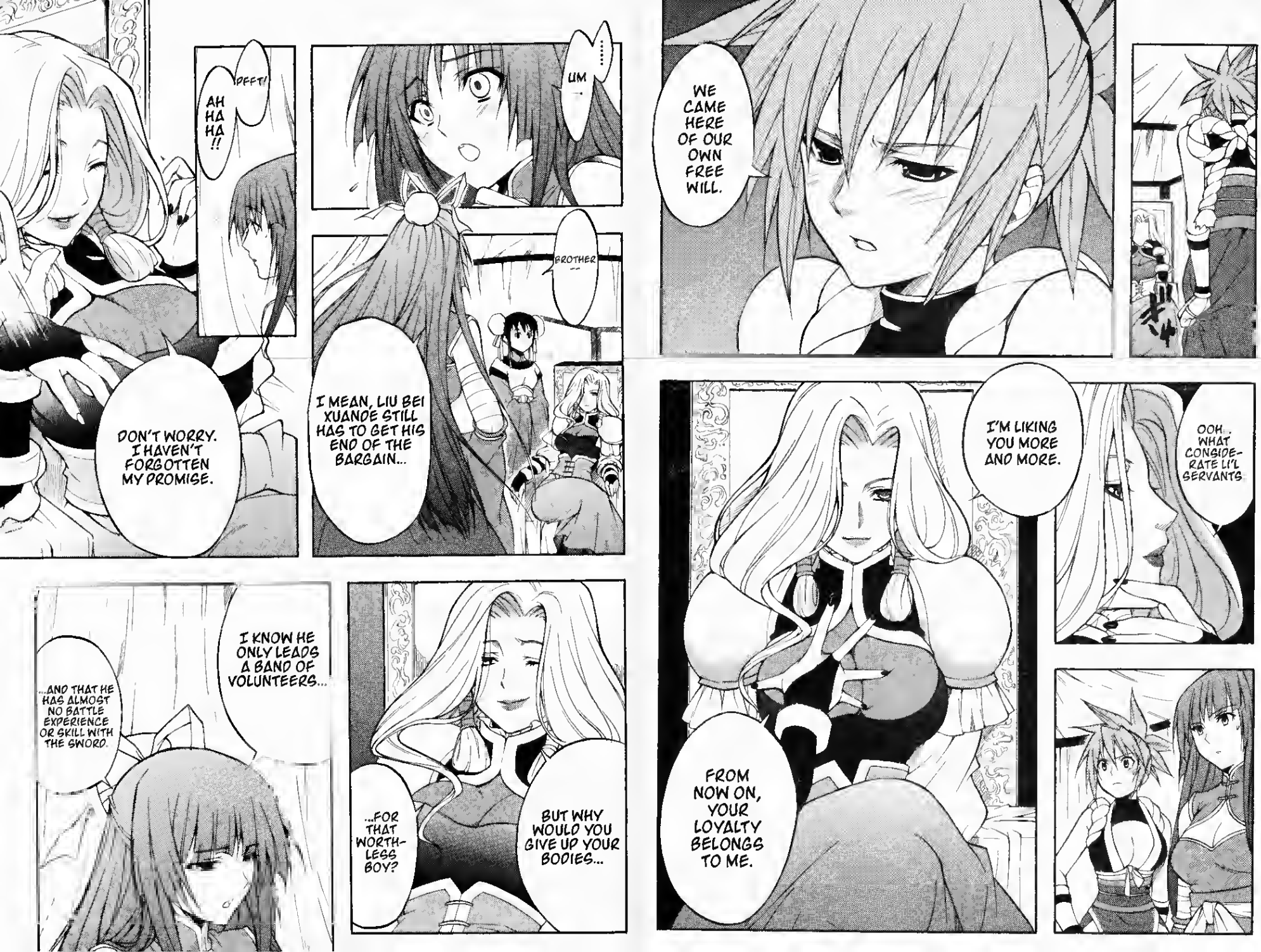
WRONG !!



JUST AS I THOUGHT. I KNEW HE'D SELL YOU OUT FOR A NEW RANK.

WOW!! THIS TENT MIGHT AS WELL BE A HOUSE INSIDE!

!!
!!!


DON'T WORRY. I HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN MY PROMISE.
AH HA HA !!
DEFT!
I MEAN, LIU BEI XUANDE STILL HAS TO GET HIS END OF THE BARGAIN...
BROTHER
UM...
WE CAME HERE OF OUR OWN FREE WILL.
I'M LIKING YOU MORE AND MORE.
OOH.. WHAT CONSIDE-RATE LI'L SERVANTS
FROM NOW ON, YOUR LOYALTY BELONGS TO ME.
BUT WHY WOULD YOU GIVE UP YOUR BODIES...
...FOR THAT WORTH-LESS BOY?
I KNOW HE ONLY LEADS A BAND OF VOLUNTEERS...
...AND THAT HE HAS ALMOST NO BATTLE EXPERIENCE OR SKILL WITH THE SWORD.

...SO I PLEDGED MY SPIRIT TO HIM UNDER THE BLOSSOMING PEACH TREES.
TO PROTECT HIS DREAM.

YEAH!
HE'S GOT NO DIGNITY, EATS SLOWLY, TALKS IN HIS SLEEP...
...HE CAN'T HOLD HIS LIQUOR AND HE WEAVES MATS.

...HE'S TOTALLY SERIOUS ABOUT RESTORING THE CHINESE ROYALTY TO THEIR GLORY.
WELL, DESPITE ALL THAT, AND DESPITE THIS WORLD WE LIVE IN..

.....
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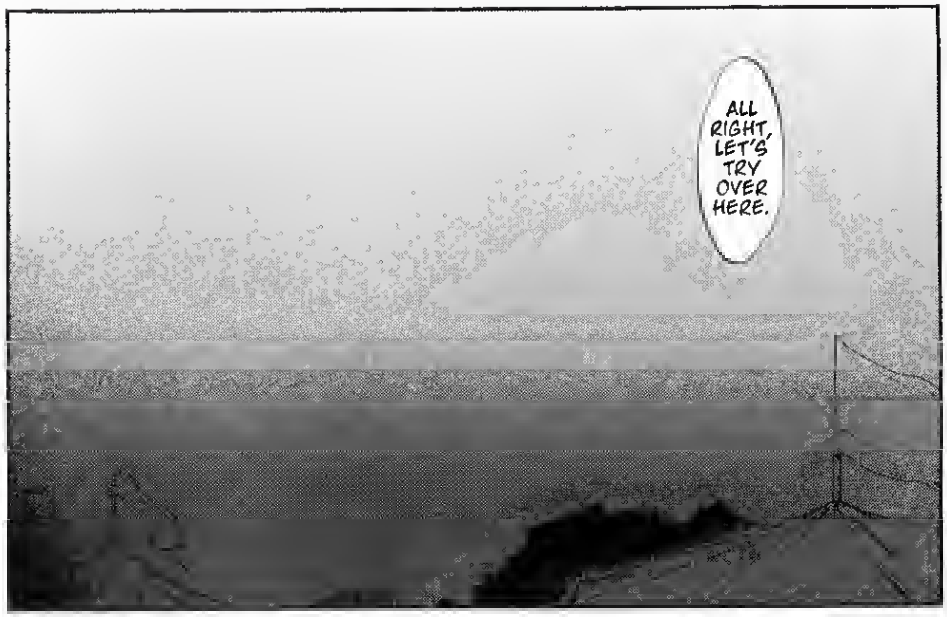
IT'S
A MIRACLE HE'S SURVIVED THIS LONG

I WANTED TO LEND MY STRENGTH...
THAT'S WHEN HE WENT FROM ZERO TO HERO IN HERE.


ALL RIGHT, LET'S TRY OVER HERE.

.....

NOPE, NOT HERE.
HEY, ANY-THING OVER THERE?

I CAN SEE WHY YOU'D WANT TO GET SOMEONE WITH SUCH A LOFTY DREAM IN THE GOVERNMENT.
I SEE.

AS PROMISED, I'LL SEND A LETTER OF PROMOTION FOR LIU BEI.

AS YOU WISH
YU LI.
I NEED YOU TO LOOK PRETTY IF YOU'RE GOING TO SERVE ME.
IN THE MEANTIME, CLEAN YOUR-SELVES UP AND CHANGE INTO THE ROBES I PICKED OUT FOR YOU.

LIU BEI!!
HOW CAN YOU SLEEP AT A TIME LIKE THIS?!
ONLY ABOUT THE WORST THING POSSIBLE!
...WHAT?
WHAT HAP-PENED?
WE CAN'T FIND GUAN YU AND ZHANG FEI! WE'VE LOOKED EVERYWHERE!
I SEE ...
THEY CHOSE TO JOIN DONG ZHUO'S FORCES OVER MINE.
IF THAT'S THE PATH THOSE TWO HAVE CHOSEN ...
I HAVE NO RIGHT TO STOP THEM.

I UNDERSTAND UP 'TIL NOW, THEY'VE FOUGHT WITHOUT RELYING ON ME.
BUT THEY'RE BETTER OFF BEING DIRECTED BY A GENERAL

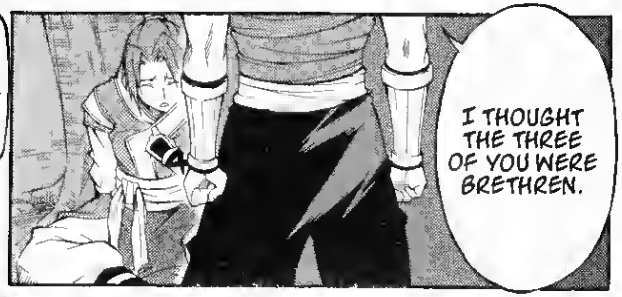
I GET IT...

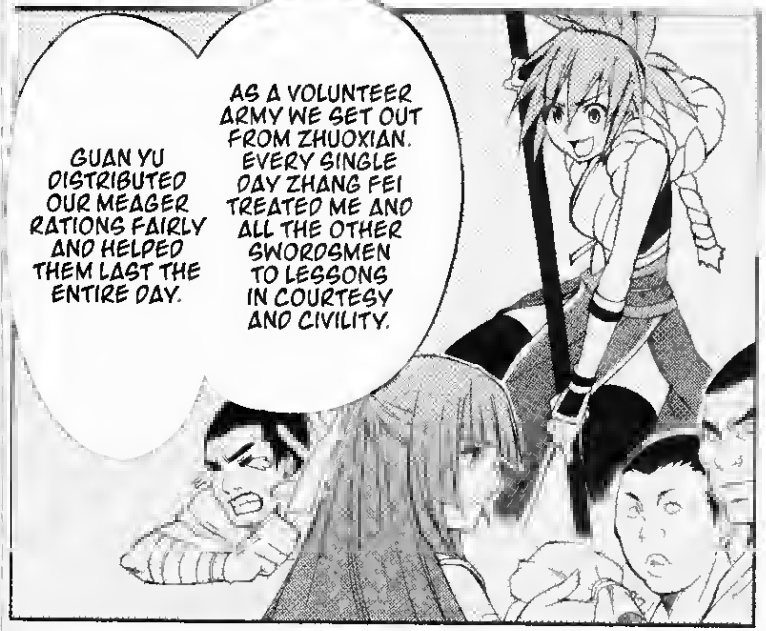
THOSE TWO ARE FINE WOMEN...
THEY SERVED A CIVILIAN WITHOUT COMPLAINT. THEY DESERVE REWARDS FROM THE LOYALIST ARMY FOR THEIR ACCOMPLISH-MENTS

THAT'S WHY!
BECAUSE I...
...HAVE NOTHING TO OFFER THEM.

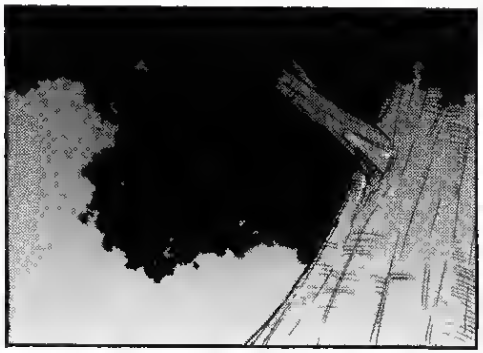
!!!!

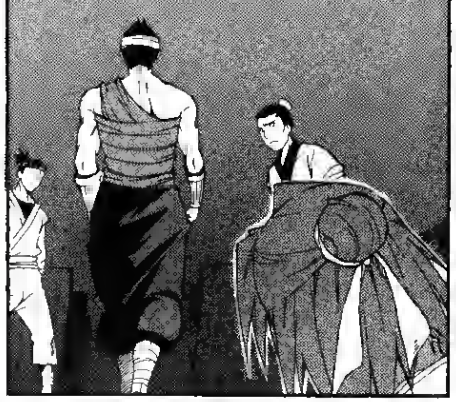
IF YOU'RE THE KIND OF MAN WHO CAN'T HONOR HIS OATHS...
I'LL KILL YOU WHERE YOU STAND!!


I THOUGHT THE THREE OF YOU WERE BRETHREN.


GUAN YU DISTRIBUTED OUR MEAGER RATIONS FAIRLY AND HELPED THEM LAST THE ENTIRE DAY.
AS A VOLUNTEER ARMY WE SET OUT FROM ZHUOXIAN. EVERY SINGLE DAY ZHANG FEI TREATED ME AND ALL THE OTHER SWORDSMEN TO LESSONS IN COURTESY AND CIVILITY.

I NEVER KNEW YOU WERE SUCH A LOSER!





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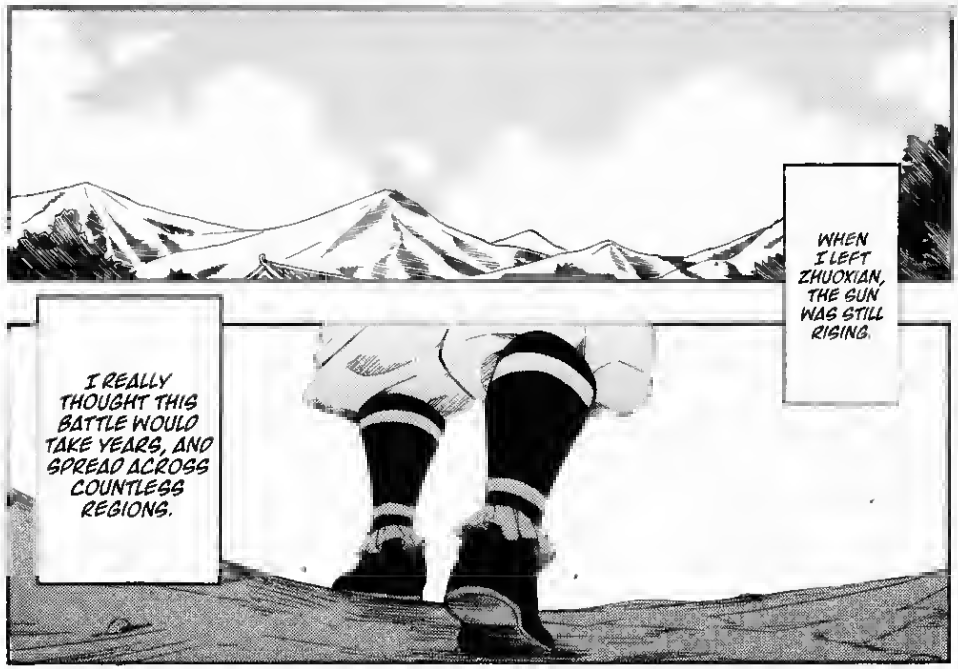
SO I'M ALONE AGAIN...

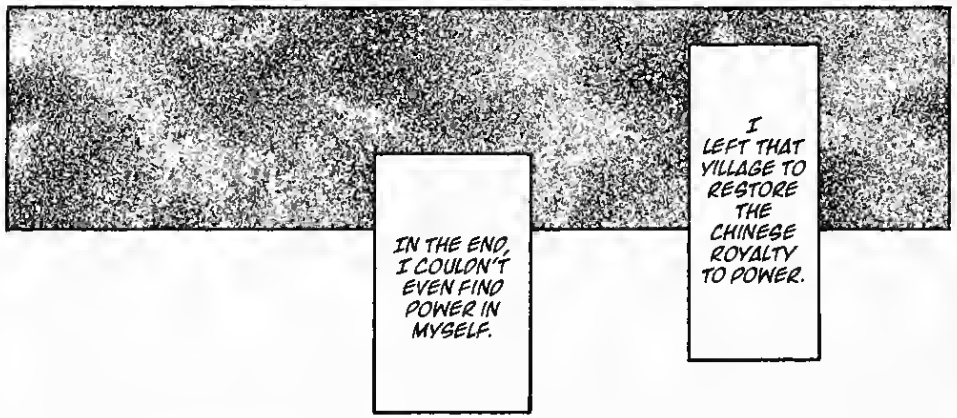
WHAT DOES HAPPI-NESS MEAN TO YOU?

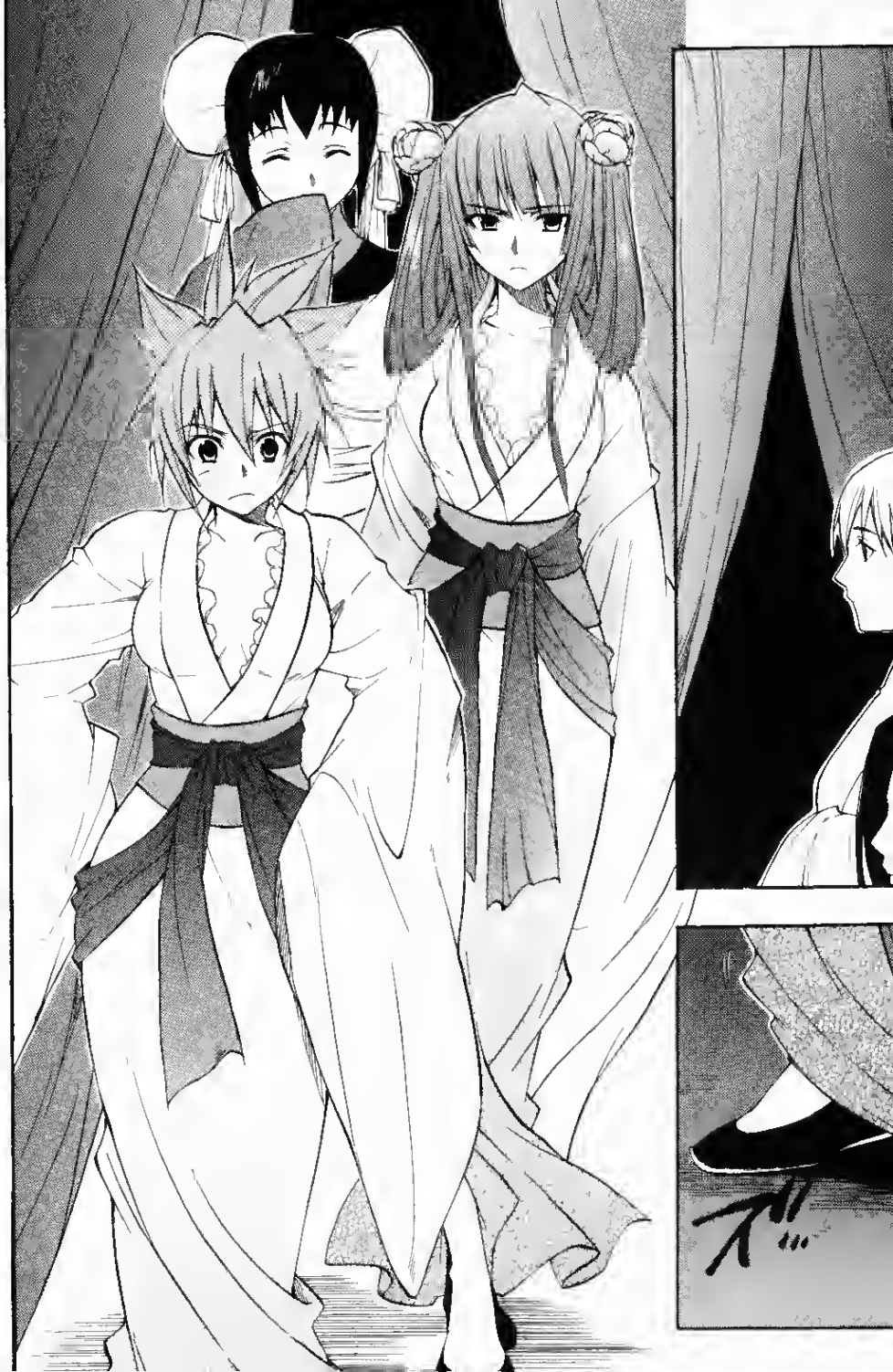
THAT'S WHY THEY ARE BETTER OFF UNDER DONG ZHUO.

DO YOU REALLY THINK THOSE TWO WOULD FIND HAPPINESS IN SUCH FRIVOLOUS THINGS?
A PRETTY KIMONO? A REWARD FROM THE ARMY?

IF YOU REALLY BELIEVE THAT, THEN I'M SORRY BUT I CAN'T SERVE UNDER YOU ANYMORE.


WHEN I LEFT ZHUOXIAN, THE SUN WAS STILL RISING.
I REALLY THOUGHT THIS BATTLE WOULD TAKE YEARS, AND SPREAD ACROSS COUNTLESS REGIONS.


I LEFT THAT YILLAGE TO RESTORE THE CHINESE ROYALTY TO POWER.
IN THE END, I COULDN'T EVEN FIND POWER IN MYSELF.

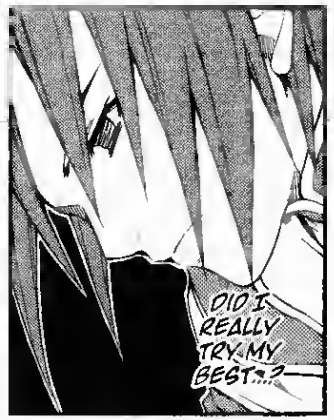


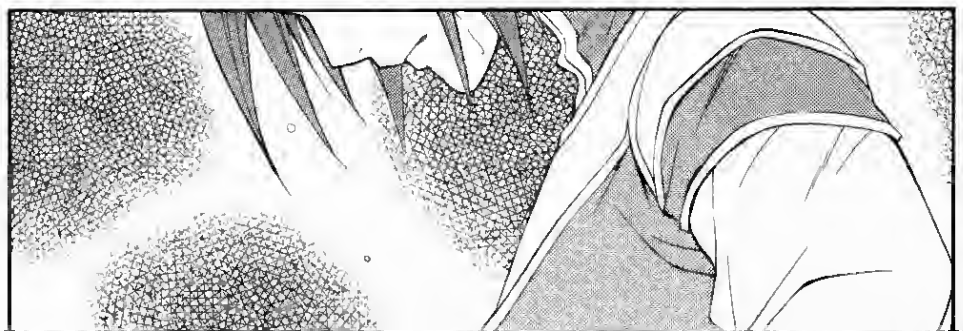
.....

TONK
THEY SWING THESE THINGS AROUND SO EASILY...

...I THINK MY DREAM IS IMPOSSIBLE.
I'VE TRIED TO DO MY BEST, BUT...

"...WE SHALL DIE TOGETHER!"
"BORN APART..."
"...TO GIVE OUR STRENGTH AND OUR LIVES FOR THE RESURRECTION OF OUR COUNTRY!"
"THOUGH OUR NAMES ARE DIFFERENT, WE PLEDGE OURSELVES AS FAMILY..."


DID I REALLY TRY MY BEST...?



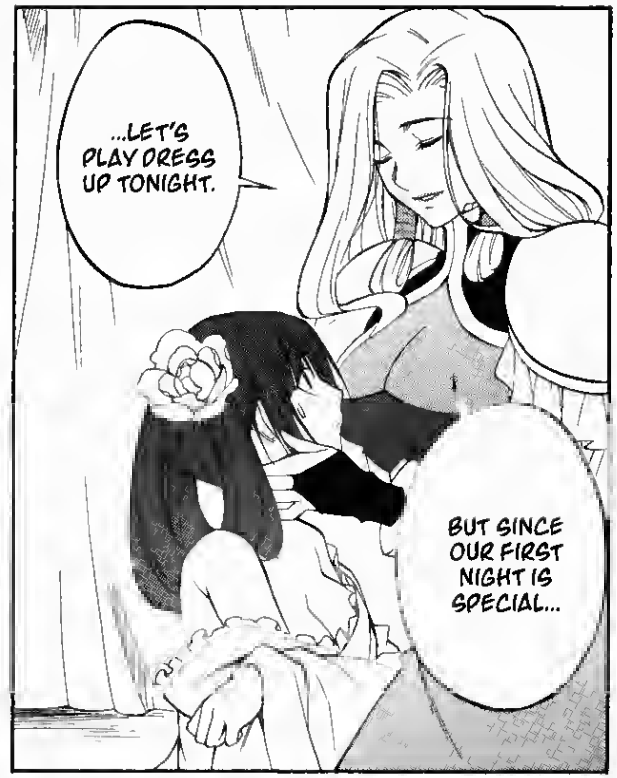
HEAVY...!

NOW, NOW, DON'T SAY THAT.
THAT IS ONE OF OUR FINEST KIMONO. IT'S WOVEN FROM THE CHOICEST SILK.
LADY DONG ZHUO IS ANXIOUS TO SEE YOU. PUT ON A HAPPY FACE, OR SHE'LL PUNISH YOU.
SHEESH!
COULD THIS MON-STROSITY HAVE ANY MORE RUFFLES?!
NOTHING... AGAIN...
NOW I'M DOING NOTHING AT ALL...
...I HAVE FRIENDS WHO CALL ME "BROTHER."
IN THE FACE OF MY DREAM...
AND EVEN THOUGH...
EVEN THOUGH I PROMISED...
WAH!!
YEAH, BUT IF I CAN'T MOVE IN THIS THING TH--
TRIP
CAN I BETRAY MYSELF, MY DREAM AND THEM LIKE THIS?

L-LADY DONG ZHUO!!
WHOOPS!
ドーン
OW...
ARE YOU HURT?
NO, WE'RE FINE..
BUT DAMN THESE CLOTHES
REALLY.. WE MUST DRESS YOU RIGHT AWAY OR...
HEE HEE...
I GOT TIRED OF WAITING SO I THOUGHT I WOULD COME SEE MY PRETTY LITTLE TOMBOYS.
I DEEPLY APOLOGIZE. I'LL RE-DRESS THEM IMMEDIATELY.
THAT'S OKAY.
KIMONO ARE KIMONO. I'M INTERESTED IN WHAT'S UNDERNEATH.
!
IT DOESN'T BOTHER ME TO SEE THEM LIKE THIS.

OVER TIME, YOU'LL BOTH LEARN TO APPRECIATE ME. WE'LL MAKE EACH OTHER VERY HAPPY...
AHH...! MY HEART IS RACING!

F-FIRST NIGHT?


...LET'S PLAY DRESS UP TONIGHT.
BUT SINCE OUR FIRST NIGHT IS SPECIAL...

GUAN YU IS A PROUD, EDUCATED WOMAN.
ZHANG FEI YOU HAVE THE WILL OF A MAN YET THE GENTLE NAIVETE OF A CHILD.

ドゥ
GUAN YU. ZHANG FEI.
EXCUSE THE INTRUSION, GENERAL DONG ZHUO, BUT I'VE COME FOR THE TWO OF THEM.

!!

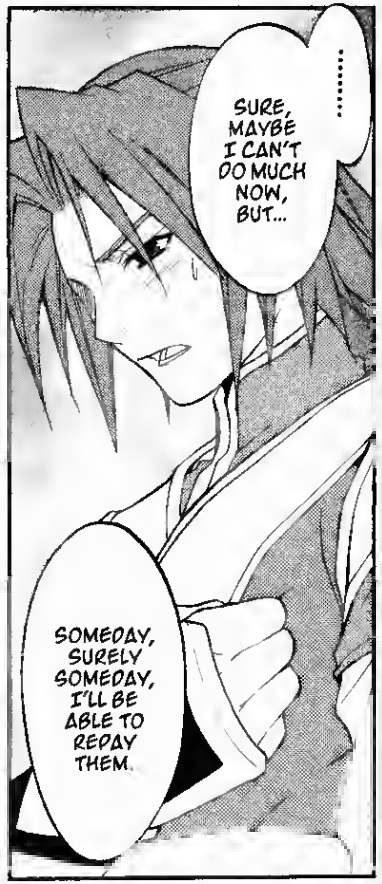
U-UM, LADY DONG ZHUO?
GRACIOUS. SHE'S DEAF TO THE WORLD

EYAAH!

SIGH
I'M HAVING SECOND THOUGHTS HERE
SAME HERE. I'M BEGINNING TO WONDER IF THIS WAS SUCH A GOOD IDEA AFTER ALL

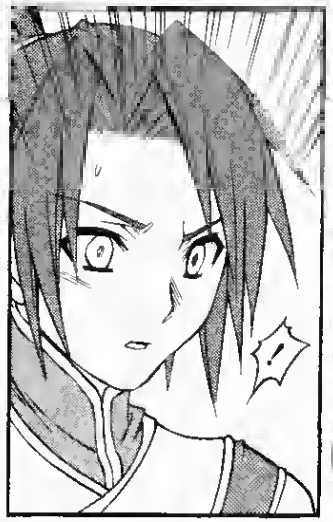
CONTINUE ON AS YOU ALWAYS HAVE, RELYING ON THEM IN BATTLE AFTER BATTLE?
EVEN IF YOU DID TAKE THEM BACK, THEN WHAT?

HA!
BIG WORDS FROM THE LEADER OF A BUNCH OF SORRY VOLUNTEERS.


.....
SURE, MAYBE I CAN'T DO MUCH NOW, BUT...
SOMEDAY, SURELY SOMEDAY, I'LL BE ABLE TO REPAY THEM.

A WAGER, THEN.

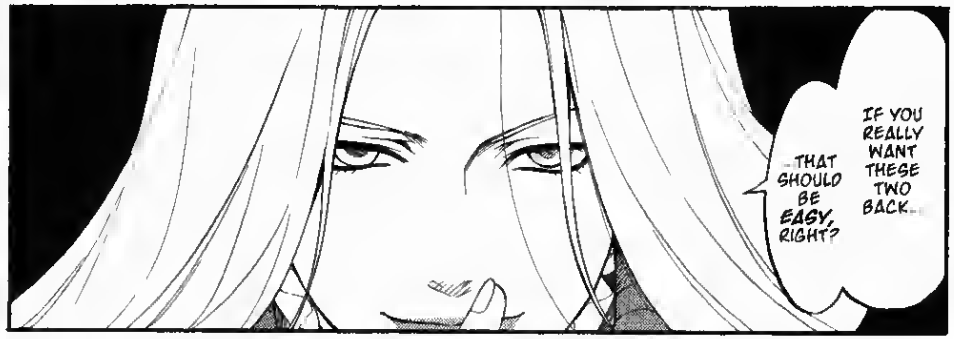
!!
BESIDES, THEY CAME OF THEIR OWN FREE WILL.
OH MY, I'M AFRAID I'M NOT WILLING TO GIVE THEM BACK.


!

THIS WAS A FAIR TRADE-- THE GIRLS FOR YOUR RANK!
THEY HAVE PROMISED TO SERVE ME.
YOU SEE?

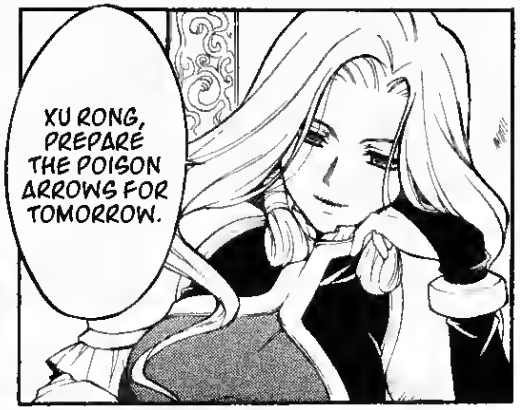
...I PROMISE TO RETURN THE GIRLS.

TOMORROW, WHEN WE BATTLE THE HUANG JIN, I'LL LET YOU COMMAND A UNIT
IF YOU ACCOMPLISH SOMETHING SIGNIFICANT...


IF YOU REALLY WANT THESE TWO BACK...
...THAT SHOULD BE EASY, RIGHT?

TOMORROW, THEN.
I LOOK FORWARD TO IT.

!
WE'LL FINALLY ENGAGE THE HUANG JIN?!


XU RONG, PREPARE THE POISON ARROWS FOR TOMORROW.

MAKE HASTE! CALL XU RONG!
RIGHT AWAY!

YU LI.

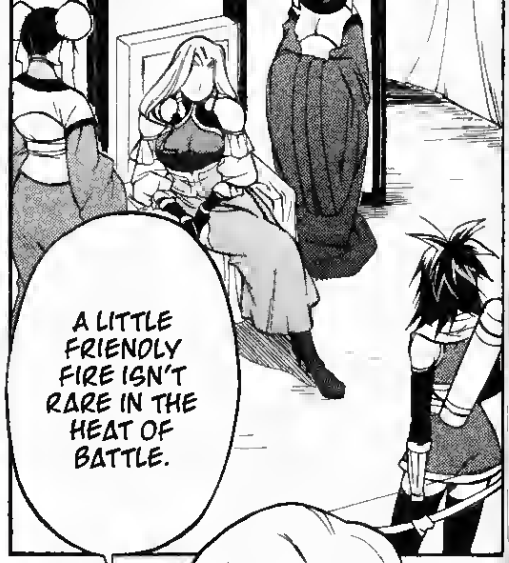
NO.
YOUR TARGET IS NOT THE HUANG JIN.

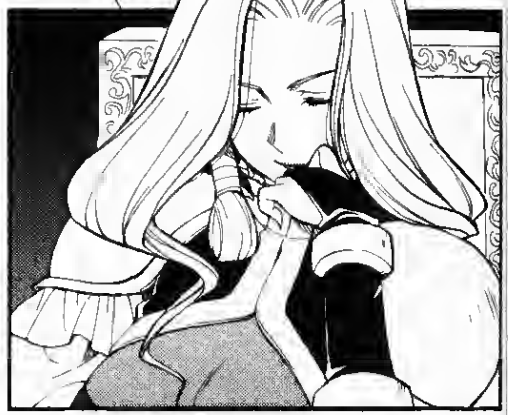
THEN YOU'LL GET TO SEE ME CUT DOWN OUR ENEMIES WITH THIS BOW.

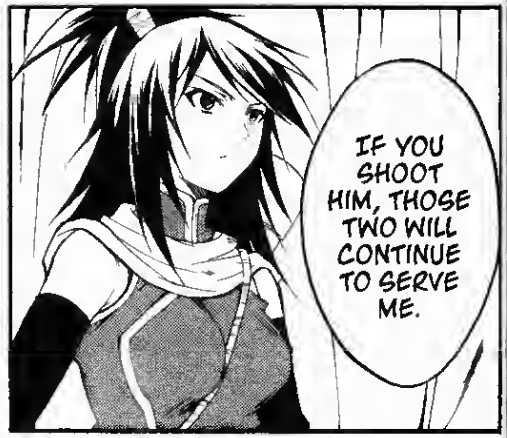
HUH?

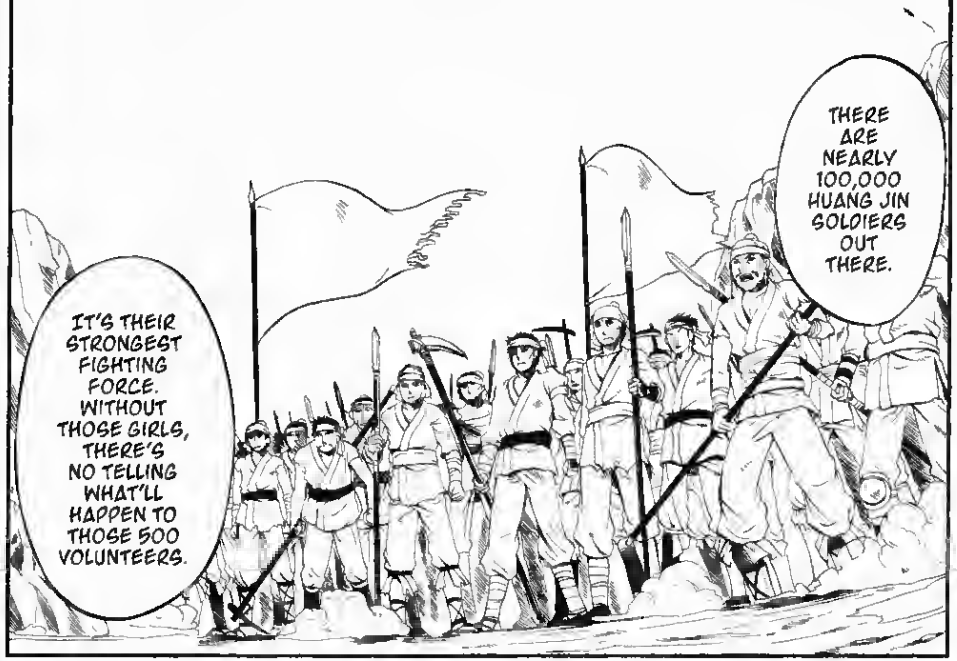
YOU CALLED FOR ME, LADY DONG ZHUO?

THOSE TWO...
...WILL BE MINE.


A LITTLE FRIENDLY FIRE ISN'T RARE IN THE HEAT OF BATTLE.




IF YOU SHOOT HIM, THOSE TWO WILL CONTINUE TO SERVE ME.

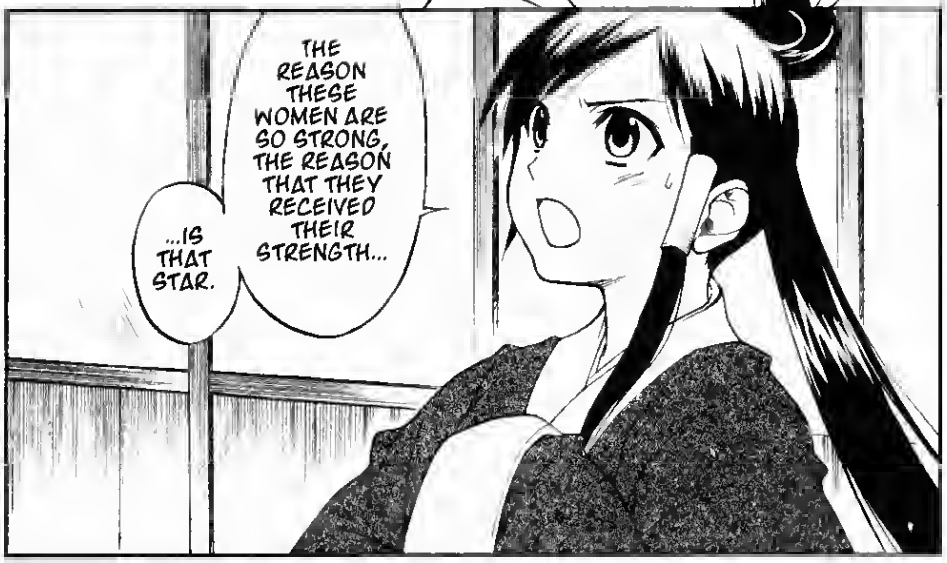

THERE ARE NEARLY 100,000 HUANG JIN SOLDIERS OUT THERE.
IT'S THEIR STRONGEST FIGHTING FORCE. WITHOUT THOSE GIRLS, THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT'LL HAPPEN TO THOSE 500 VOLUNTEERS.

ANYTHING COULD HAPPEN OUT ON THAT BATTLEFIELD
IT IS INTO THAT CHAOS, XU RONG...

THAT I WANT YOU TO FIRE AN ARROW
...AT LIU BEI.

BROTHER ZHANG BAO, LOOK AT THAT GIANT, SHINING STAR.
THAT STAR...
WHAT ABOUT IT?
スゥーッ
スゥーッ

IT WAS CERTAINLY FOLLY ON ZHANG JIAO'S PART TO WISH FOR MORE THAN DEPRIVING THEM OF THEIR POWER.
BUT THEN THOSE WOMEN BEGAN TO EXHIBIT THE POWERS WE THOUGHT WE HAD ROBBED FROM THE PEOPLE!

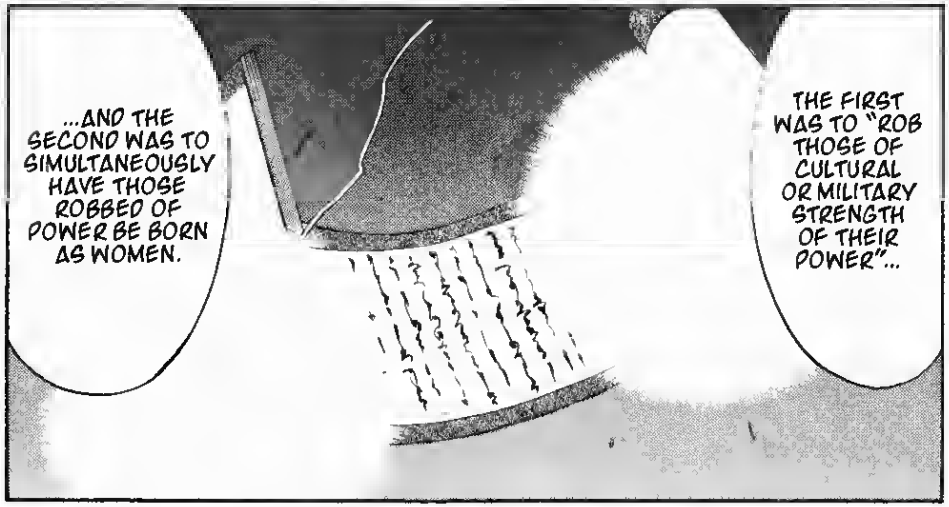

...IS THAT STAR.
THE REASON THESE WOMEN ARE SO STRONG, THE REASON THAT THEY RECEIVED THEIR STRENGTH...

THAT STAR IS THE SOURCE OF OUR MAGICAL ABILITY. THE STAR OF FORTUNE.

AND?! WHAT ABOUT IT?!

WHEN WE USED THE SECRET POWERS WITHIN THE ESSENTIAL ARTS OF PEACE...
WE WISHED FOR TWO THINGS

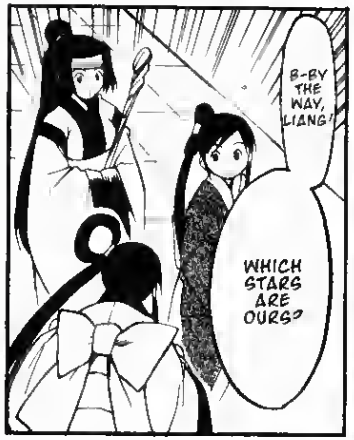
STAR OF FORTUNE?! WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?


THE FIRST WAS TO "ROB THOSE OF CULTURAL OR MILITARY STRENGTH OF THEIR POWER"...
...AND THE SECOND WAS TO SIMULTANEOUSLY HAVE THOSE ROBBED OF POWER BE BORN AS WOMEN.

PER-HAPS...
THE LOYALIST ARMY'S MOUNTED KNIGHT CAO CAO HAS TWO SUBORDINATES, XIAHOU DUN AND XIAHOU YUAN, WHO I HEAR ARE RATHER HEROIC WOMEN.

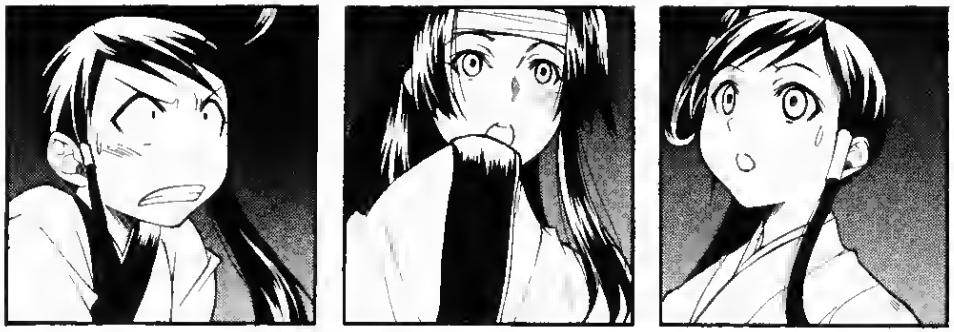
YOU MEAN LIKE THAT BRUTISH BEAR OF A WOMAN?

THERE MIGHT BE OTHERS WITH MAGIC LIKE US OR WITH EVEN MORE POWER. POWER WE CAN'T EVEN IMAGINE.


B-BY THE WAY, LIANG?
WHICH STARS ARE OURS?

EVEN ONE IS TOO MANY.
.....
IN-DEED.

ALL PEOPLE ARE BORN UNDER A GUIDING STAR.
AND THE PATH OF THAT GUIDING STAR DETERMINES THAT PERSON'S FATE.
THE CURSE OF THE ESSENTIAL ARTS OF PEACE GREATLY ALTERED THE FATES OF ALL WHO ARE GUIDED BY THE STAR OF FORTUNE.
THOSE GUIDED BY THE LIGHT OF THE STAR OF FORTUNE...
...WERE SIMPLY ALTERED AND BORN AS WOMEN.



GASP!
STARE

LIANG! WHICH STAR JUST FELL?!

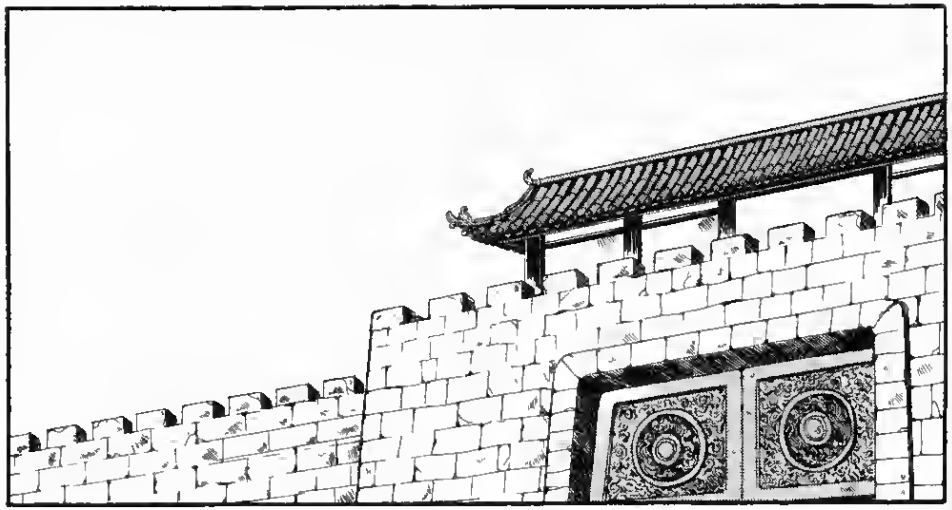
WE HAVE A DESTINY TO FULFILL! WE'LL SHOW THE WORLD THE POWER OF THE THREE BROTHERS!
Grr!
THAT STAR FALLING DOESN'T MEAN ANY-THING!
THAT WAS OUR OLDER BRO-THER'S STAR!!
WHAT ARE YOU STARING AT?! IT'S ONLY NATURAL THAT BROTHER ZHANG JIAO'S STAR SHOULD FALL!!

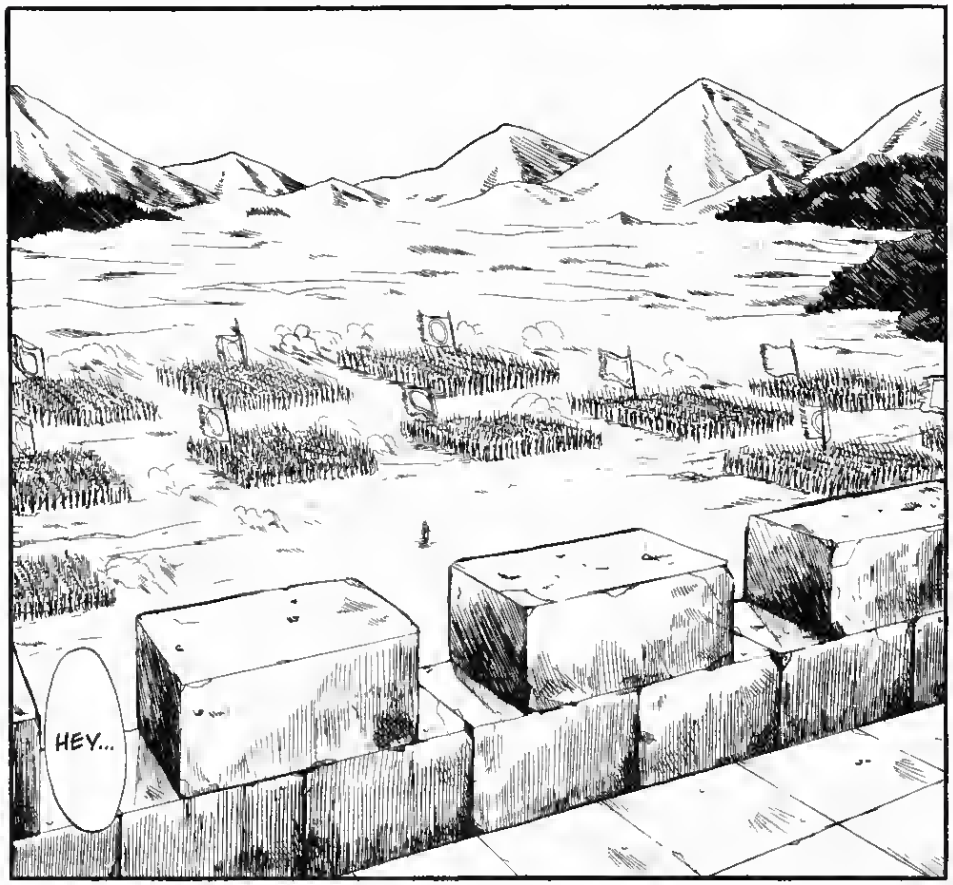
WHAT? THEY LOOK PRETTY PATHETIC
.....

OH! THE LARGE STARS?!
NO... THE ONES SCATTERED IN BE-TWEEN...

THOSE THREE STARS OVER THERE

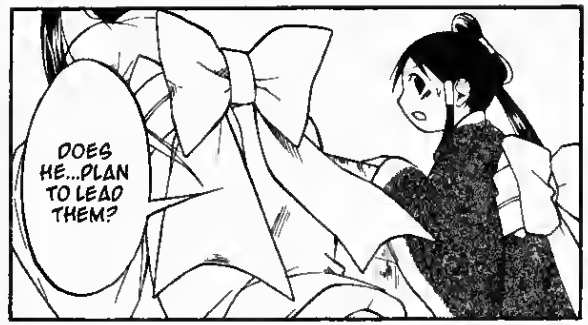
THOSE WEAK-ASS STARS CAN'T BE OURS!!
LIANG! DO ANOTHER READING!
AH!!



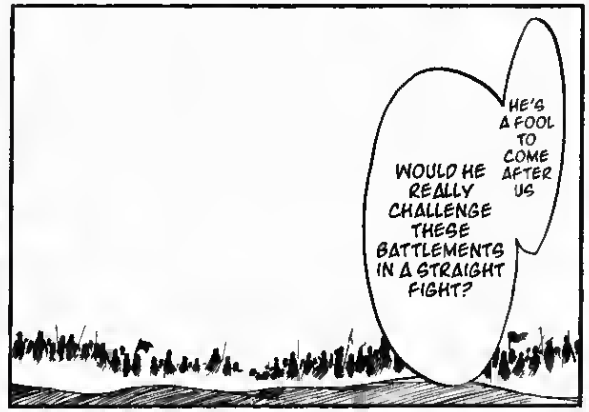

HEY...

TOMORROW MORNING, THE HUANG JIN GO TO WAR!
COUGH
COUGH
COUGH

SOMEHOW HE'S BEEN ABANDONED BY EVERY-ONE BUT YOU.
NO WAY.!!


DOES HE...PLAN TO LEAD THEM?

WHAT'S GOING ON DOWN THERE?


HE'S A FOOL TO COME AFTER US
WOULD HE REALLY CHALLENGE THESE BATTLEMENTS IN A STRAIGHT FIGHT?

WELL, WELL. LOOK AT THIS.

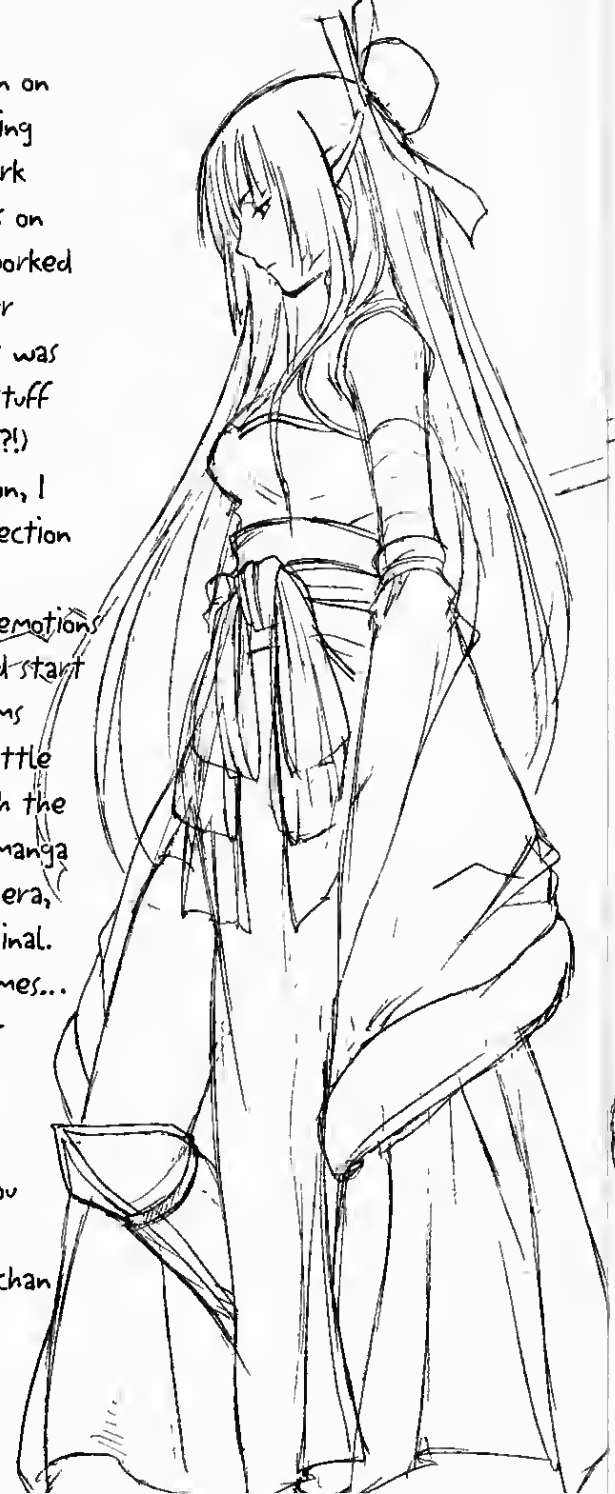
Continued in Volume 2!

DRAGON SISTER!
ドラゴンシスター!
三國志百花繚乱

So that's just my reflection on things. When I began drawing manga I was busy with work every day and would pass on drawings to everyone. I worked hard to copy my character illustrations. The mail I got was very encouraging. It said stuff like, "More please!" (whaaa?!) Since I craved the attention, I ended up with a huge collection of illustrations! Ha ha!
It was a roller coaster of emotions every day, so I thought I'd start drawing my Three Kingdoms manga. The language is a little strange, but if you go with the flow you'll be fine. It's a manga about the Three Kingdoms era, but it's not entirely unoriginal. You'll see in the next volumes... and thank you so much for getting this one, too!

• Special Thanks •
Yanagisawa Yukari . Kanou Touko . Yuuzou Makiko . Non-chan . Ishizaka . Hito-chan

^^
♡



★ Nice to meet you, everyone! I'm nini. I don't know how, but I got this book published. In order to get this book out, and fit in all my tweaks and edits, I changed the manuscript over and over, constantly scanning it and crying out, "What the hell is this!!" Seriously... At the same time, I had a lot of work besides this manga. I was very uncertain about the design... I was never satisfied and just drew and re-drew, but... sigh. The serial has run one year, but I'm still a rookie, so please bear with me.

In the Next

dragon sister!

Liu Bei makes a stand against the Huang Jin forces. With Guan Yu and Zhang Fei now allied with the voluptuous Dong Zhuo, things look bleak for him. But, little does Liu Bei know that when he's captured, he'll learn a big secret about what's really been going on!